Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches

24 - 27 August 2004

Meeting held at the

Olympic Parktel, Seoul, Korea

These minutes have no official status until received, amended as necessary and approved by the Executive Committee at its next meeting. The official proceedings of the Executive Committee consist of a documented record of decisions taken by the Committee along with the texts of documents acted upon. The introductions to agenda items and summaries of presentations and discussions are prepared by the minute-taker for background information only, and should not be cited as part of the official proceedings of the meeting nor as such attributed to the speakers' names.

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1 WELCOME TO KOREA

Members of the Executive Committee were welcomed to Korea by the National Council of Churches in Korea (NCCK) and the WCC member churches in Korea. There were a number of events arranged for the Executive Committee outside its formal meetings.

On Sunday 22 August members of the Committee attended and participated in morning worship in local congregations. In the afternoon the NCCK Women's Committee met with women members of the Executive Committee, and in the evening a welcome reception and dinner were held at the Olympic Parktel, Seoul. The Master of Ceremonies was Revd Paik Do-Woong, General Secretary of the NCCK. A welcome address was given by the Revd Kim Soon-Kwon, NCCK President and Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Korea, and a congratulatory address by Dr Kang Moon-Kyu, WCC Asia President, and a welcome address by Mr Lee Myung-Bak, Mayor of Seoul. Rev. Dr Kobia responded on behalf of the WCC.

On Monday 23 August an Ecumenical Forum took place to mark the 80th anniversary of the NCCK. His Holiness Aram 1, WCC Moderator, gave greetings, emphasizing the distinctive role of Asian churches in ecumenism, and Revd Dr Samuel Kobia, WCC General Secretary, gave the keynote address on the theme 'New Vision and Challenges to Ecumenism in the 21st Century'. His address was followed by a panel discussion and contributions from the floor. The panellists were: Professor Dr Maake Masango, Bishop Zacharias Mar Theophilus, Bishop Dr Rolf Koppe, Revd Dr Clifton Kirkpatrick, Ms Donnalie Edwards-Cabey, and Dr Chang Yoon-Jae.

In the afternoon the Committee members visited the Ministry of Unification, where the Deputy Minister welcomed them in the room normally used for negotiations between North and South Korea.

He thanked the WCC for its efforts for Korean unification and gave an update on progress made.

In the evening the Minister of Culture and Tourism hosted a traditional Korean dinner and cultural presentation for Committee members at the Korean House.

On Tuesday 24 August members of the Executive Committee were invited in the afternoon to the Blue House to meet the President of the Republic of Korea. In the evening the Minister of Unification hosted a dinner at the Plaza Hotel in honour of the Executive Committee.

On Wednesday 25 August, in the course of the meeting, Dr Samuel Lee introduced Revd Dr Kang Won Yong. Dr Kang had served in the past on both the Central and Executive Committees of the WCC. He had been the first Korean, and the only one before Dr Lee, to serve on the WCC Executive Committee and had played a significant role in the ecumenical movement in Korea.

Dr Kang addressed the Executive Committee. He looked back to the difficult days in Korea under the military regime, when ecumenism had been frowned on and participation in the WCC made difficult. He remembered with gratitude the WCC's support for human rights and Urban Rural Mission in Korea.

Turning to the present, he felt that the Executive Committee had come to Korea at the right time. In the past century the fate of the Korean people had been determined by the surrounding great powers. Now in the 21st century peace must be established on the Korean peninsula. It was a task for Koreans themselves and the great powers, encouraged by the WCC, needed to play a positive role in that development. It was his hope that the WCC's Tenth Assembly would take place in Korea, and in a united Korea.

The Moderator thanked Dr Kang for his remarks.

In the evening the Executive Committee were entertained to dinner and attended worship at the Myung Sung Presbyterian Church, where His Holiness Aram 1 gave a greeting and Revd Dr Samuel Kobia preached to a capacity congregation.

The daily meetings of the Executive Committee took place at the World Peace Center of the Seoul Saebyuk Presbyterian Church, where they were welcomed by the Senior Pastor, Revd Dr Seung Young Lee. He described the work of his congregation and of the Peace Center and said it was an honour for them to host the meeting of the Executive Committee.

2 OPENING ACTIONS

2.1 Worship

Morning worship took place each day of the meeting, the sermons being given by Korean church leaders. The general theme was 'God's grace at work towards reconciliation'. The daily themes were:

24 August: 'Arise, shine, your light has come'
Preacher: Bishop Kim Jin Ho, President of the Council of Bishops, Korean Methodist Church

25 August: 'Christians' human relationships'
Preacher: Revd Kim Ok-Nam, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea

26 August: 'Reconciliation in church and society'
Preacher: Most Revd Matthew Chul Bum Chung, Primate, Anglican Church of Korea

27 August: 'The hope for spirituality and sharing for all in Holy Communion'
Preacher: Metropolitan Sotirios Trambas, The Orthodox Church in Korea

2.2 Call to Order and Welcome

The Moderator, His Holiness Aram 1, called the meeting to order at 10.10am on 24 August 2004 in the Saebyuk World Peace Center, Seoul, Korea. He welcomed the committee members to the meeting and expressed thanks to the Korean churches for all that they were doing in welcoming the committee.

2.3 Roll Call

The General Secretary called the roll. Apologies for absence had been received from Bishop Dr Hilarion Alfeyev, Revd Inamar Correa de Souza, Bishop McKinley Young and Revd Dr Ilaitia Sevati Tuwere, for whom Mr John Doom was approved as substitute.

He further welcomed Revd Dr D'Arcy Wood, Uniting Church in Australia, as consultant, and also Dr Kang Moon Kyu (WCC Asia President), Dr Ahn Jae Woong (General Secretary, Christian Conference of Asia), Revd Kim Soon-Kwon (President, National Council of Churches in Korea (NCCK)) and Revd Paik Do-Woong (General Secretary, NCCK).

2.4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland, 17-20 February 2004 had been previously circulated.

The following amendments were approved:
p.16: the paragraph beginning 'Ms Idah Njobvu...' to read: 'Ms Idah Njobvu had recently been at a conference where the general secretaries of some churches had seemed to be unaware of some recent ecumenical developments in this area.'
p.22: in the paragraph beginning 'Documented past experiences...' the figure giving Orthodox participation in line 8 to read 25%
p.33: line 14 to read '...the failure of the international community...'

p.58: the second bullet point to read: 'Churches whose delegations conform to the Central Committee criteria regarding women, youth and persons with disabilities.'

The minutes were **approved** as amended.

2.5 Adoption of Agenda and Timetable

The General Secretary presented a proposed agenda and timetable. There would be two days in plenary session, one day substantially devoted to work in sub-committees, and a final half-day in plenary.

The Executive Committee **approved** the agenda and timetable.

2.6 Appointment of Sub-Committees

The Executive Committee had before it the suggested membership of sub-committees. Some adjustments were made. The Executive Committee approved the membership of the Public Issues Sub-Committee and, at a later session, the membership of the Programme, Staffing and Nominations, and Finance Sub-Committees (see Appendix II).

3 REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

At the invitation of the Moderator, the General Secretary gave his report.

Travel
Since the last meeting of the Executive Committee, he had had a heavy travel programme – twelve trips to fourteen countries in six regions. They had consisted of official visits to churches, WCC events requiring the presence of the General Secretary, strategic visits (to New York and Belarus) and speaking engagements at significant ecumenical events.

Emerging issues
Various issues had emerged in the course of these visits. Church leaders had much in mind the changing face of ecumenism in the 21st century. There was much anxiety in face of the lack of security in today's world. The one remaining superpower was feared rather than respected. This grip of fear, if unchecked, could have devastating psychological, emotional, social and political effects. Inter-faith matters were seen to be of increasing importance, particularly in view of the potential of religion for peace, reconciliation and healing. There was a strong desire for the WCC to have a strong moral voice at global level. The WCC needed to prioritize its work, i.e. do fewer things better. To that end there was a strong feeling that the mandate for future work produced by the Ninth Assembly would be critical for the future of the WCC.

In general he had found much goodwill and support shown to the WCC.

Visit to the Secretary General of the United Nations
He had visited Kofi Annan on May 17, an important meeting. He was a man under immense pressure and a man of tremendous integrity. He had a high regard for the WCC and wished to reach out to the WCC and explore what could be done together.

Future travel
He outlined future travel plans: to Canada, USA (in connection with DOV), and to Latin America (Bolivia, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Chile). The Latin America trip would include the meeting of the Assembly Planning Committee in Porto Alegre. The travel programme had been particularly heavy in 2004 and he reassured the Executive Committee that his travel plans for 2005 would not be so demanding.

Christian World Communions
A meeting with CWC general secretaries had discussed ways of improving relations with the WCC. They had welcomed the initiative on reconfiguration of the ecumenical movement and were committed to participate in the process. There were differing attitudes to the WCC among the CWCs, and, while some would not wish to be seen as being close to the WCC, the majority desired a

closer relationship. The multiplicity of world assemblies/conferences – approximately twelve in the past decade – needed to be tackled. Discussion on this issue had begun, and a proposal would be coming to the WCC Assembly.

The Roman Catholic Church

On the occasion of the meeting of the Executive of the Joint Working Group at Antelias in March 2004, he had met with the leadership of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. The RCC was committed to continuing its co-operation with the WCC, and had been actively involved in the preparations for the Faith and Order Plenary Commission Meeting and the World Mission Conference. The RCC was, however, in a delicate ecumenical situation. Most bilateral dialogues had reached a point of stagnation and our RC partners seemed to be promoting an ecumenical status quo rather than taking courageous steps forward.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary in 2005 of the establishment of the Joint Working Group, the role of the JWG would be evaluated and priorities set for the future.

During the Antelias meeting, a Roman Catholic representative had floated the idea of the WCC's opening an office at the Vatican. The General Secretary said he would welcome comments from the Executive Committee on this idea.

The Steering Committee of the Special Commission on Orthodox Participation

He had attended the Steering Committee in Minsk, Belarus, in June. Progress had been made in the areas of consensus and membership. Common worship had continued to be discussed. The continuation of the work of the Special Commission had been examined. The Orthodox Church in Belarus had shown a high level of ecumenical commitment. Through the work of the Special Commission new bridges were being built with the Orthodox churches. This was particularly evident with the Orthodox Church of Georgia, which, he reminded the Committee, had withdrawn from WCC membership. There were positive developments there, and also with the new government of Georgia, which is committed to working towards religious tolerance.

Faith and Order

Reporting on the meeting of the Plenary Commission on Faith and Order, Kuala Lumpur, 28 July – 6 August, he drew attention to the significance of the meeting taking place in a Muslim-majority country. The Prime Minister had taken the opportunity when addressing the Commission to make a major policy speech on the need for toleration and mutual understanding. It had been the first major international Christian gathering to be addressed by a Malaysian Prime Minister, and it had been widely reported in the media.

Further work had been done on the Statement on Ecclesiology, prepared at the request of the Central Committee, particularly in light of comments on it made by the Steering Committee of the Special Commission. The Statement would be presented to the Central Committee at its next meeting with a view to further presentation to the Assembly.

Concerning the recruitment of the next Director, Commission on Faith and Order, he reported that there had been 32 initial enquiries, 13 application forms had been returned, of which nine had been screened, but only two candidates had satisfied the necessary criteria. The Faith and Order Plenary Commission felt that the net had not been cast wide enough and had decided not to proceed to a recommendation at this stage. Therefore, the Plenary Commission had been unable to recommend a candidate for appointment by the present meeting of the Executive Committee He had discussed with the Officers of Faith and Order a revised timetable for the appointment (cf Chapter 12).

Reconfiguration

Ms Jill Hawkey had been engaged as consultant to prepare a 'map' of the present ecumenical movement, identifying trends and issues. A further consultation would be held in Geneva, 29 November – 3 December 2004, with eighty participants. Unlike the November 2003 meeting at Antelias, this would not be a meeting of persons attending in an individual capacity, but of persons attending in a representative capacity. Half would be representatives appointed by member churches, and half would be representing other ecumenical bodies, REOs, NCCs, CWCs, etc. Preparatory seminars for staff had been planned to

feed into this consultation. A report on reconfiguration from the consultation would be presented to the February 2005 Central Committee meeting.

Inter-faith matters

Two activities had been undertaken at the request of the Central and Executive Committees:

A Workshop on Religion, Power and Violence had taken place, 8-13 June, as a space for discussion of these issues. It had been interdisciplinary and the result of inter-team co-operation. Participants from a variety of contexts had explored how religion can contribute to overcoming violence. Based on the workshop's findings, a resource kit on inter-religious peace-building was being prepared.

A process of theological reflection on religious plurality and Christian self-understanding had been initiated. Past work on the issue had been taken into consideration (e.g. San Antonio World Mission and Evangelism Conference, 1989, Report of Section I, IV, Witness among people of other living faiths), and, more recently, the Moderator's Report to the Central Committee, 2003, and the Hearing on Religious Plurality at the same meeting. A drafting group had been formed. They would examine input from the Faith and Order Plenary Commission, Kuala Lumpur, and prepare a document for the Central Committee at its meeting in February 2005. The Central Committee would decide how that document could be fed into the thinking of the Assembly.

He commented how the Ecumenical Institute, Bossey, is increasingly being recognized as a place for exploring inter-religious relations. Since it is a study centre and not a church, people of all faiths felt comfortable in that setting.

Finally, he gave notice that the International Inter-Religious Conference agreed by the Executive Committee at its previous meeting would take place, 7-9 June 2005.

ACT International and Ecumenical News International.

Finally, he drew the attention of the meeting to documentation on these two bodies, which would assist the Committee in their consideration of them.

The Moderator, in thanking the General Secretary for his substantial report, commented on the enthusiasm and dynamism he was bringing to his work.

Discussion

Mrs Justice Sophia Adinyira, Vice-Moderator, presiding, invited discussion on the General Secretary's Report.

Ms Carmencita Karagdag thanked the General Secretary for his visit to the Philippines. She agreed that the WCC needed to raise a strong moral voice in the present insecure international situation. The WCC should support peace-making initiatives, and in this regard she referred to the Christian Conference of Asia's 2005 Assembly with its theme 'Building Communities of Peace for All.'

Dean Anders Gadegaard was grateful for the General Secretary's pastoral attitude, both to the churches and to the WCC staff. He expressed his concern at the situation in Faith and Order. The right person must be found. The two candidates on hold might be lost if the appointment process was too lengthy. Concerning the Faith and Order Statement on Ecclesiology, he hoped that it would be presented to the Executive and Central Committees in February 2005 for comment and possible amendment. Concerning ENI, on the board of which he was presently serving, he stressed the importance of ENI in its relations with the media.

Fr Dr K M George congratulated the General Secretary on his vision for the future, and was pleased at the emphasis placed on interfaith dialogue and religious plurality. There was a wealth of experience, dating from the 1960s, both at the intellectual level, and at the experiential level, where people are living together in a dialogue of life. He hoped that Bossey would be a place not only for theoretical reflection in this area but also for shared experience of spirituality.

Ms Donnalie Edwards-Cabey, thanking the General Secretary, had two concerns. Bossey was not simply a meeting place: it needed resourcing. Were staff levels adequate? As for a possible WCC office at the Vatican: what would it do?

Bishop Dr Rolf Koppe was in favour of strengthening links with the Vatican, but representation should be reciprocal. Citing SODEPAX as a good arrangement, he felt that similar cooperation in Geneva would be welcome.

Very Revd Leonid Kishkovsky, thanking the General Secretary, felt that the Minsk meeting of the Steering Committee of the Special Commission had been a positive occasion. The visit had also included meeting with representatives of the Jewish and Muslim communities. He expressed concern at the troubling reality of relations of the USA with the rest of the world. Together with Dr Kirkpatrick, he had visited the UN Secretary General one week after the General Secretary's visit, which the Secretary General had much appreciated. He hoped that such visits would continue.

Rt Revd Dr Zacharias Mar Theophilus stressed that people were looking to the WCC to give a moral lead on global issues – the JPIC process had shown this. He expressed his sadness at the situation in Faith and Order. It was of prime importance in the life of the WCC and must not be allowed to decline. He believed that the suggestion of a WCC office at the Vatican should be examined in the wider context of the reconfiguration of the ecumenical movement.

The Moderator had several comments. Visits by the General Secretary to churches were important: they built up fellowship. We needed to listen to the churches more sensitively. The suggestion of a WCC office at the Vatican had been made by only one member of the Joint Working Group. Any detailed discussion at this point would be premature. Concerning Faith and Order, it was not one among many WCC programmes, but had a special status. It was the place where the three major Christian traditions – Orthodox, Protestant and Roman Catholic – came together. The situation thus demanded careful consideration.

Revd Dr Clifton Kirkpatrick appreciated the General Secretary's report, in particular the goodwill being built up with the staff and the churches. Concerning the reconfiguration of the ecumenical movement, he believed there to be a general awareness that the present pattern could not continue and

that people were ready for change. His hope was that the coming November meeting and the February Central Committee meeting would not produce final proposals, but would be occasions for continuing discussion. Closure must not be rushed.

The General Secretary, responding to the discussion, commented that the Decade to Overcome Violence was not a theoretical exercise, but one that would lead to ongoing concrete work. He reassured members that the Statement on Ecclesiology would be presented to the Executive and Central Committees in February 2005. He expressed his pleasure that WCC was now represented on the ENI Board by Dean Gadegaard. He agreed with Fr George that the experiential aspect of inter-faith relations was important. Regarding Ms Edwards-Cabey's concern about staffing levels at Bossey, he agreed that the staffing level was lower than it should be. The endowment by the United Methodist Church (USA) of the chair occupied by Dr Tapia was no longer adequate to support it, and no extension beyond 31 December 2005 was envisaged. There was, however, considerable interest in Bossey. He gave a reassurance that the suggestion of a Vatican office would be approached cautiously. The mutuality of the SODEPAX programme had been important. He was grateful for the US churches' representations to the UN Secretary General.

The Moderator thanked the General Secretary for his report and his response to the discussion.

4 PRELIMINARY REPORT ON FINANCES

Mrs Justice Sophia Adinyira, Vice-Moderator, presiding, invited Dean Anders Gadegaard, who would be moderating the Finance Sub-Committee in the absence of Bishop McKinley Young, to outline the tasks before the sub-committee. Before doing so, Dean Gadegaard invited Dr William Temu to give a presentation on the present financial situation.

Dr Temu reported that at 30 June 2004 overall results were reasonably close to budget.

A comparison with the previous year, to 30 June 2003, showed that membership contributions were slightly improved, contributions from funding partners were ahead (as they had been encouraged to spread their contributions more evenly throughout the year), and investment income was down. Rentals and sales appeared higher, but only because the income from the residential building rentals was now booked on a month-to-month basis instead of only at year end as formerly. This comparison showed the Council to be in reasonable shape.

As regarded the rest of the coming year, a second forecasting exercise was planned for early September and any areas where the year's income might not be spent would be identified, so that permission from funding partners could be sought for reallocation of unspent balances.

Looking to future years, Dr Temu stated that the 2005 budget, examined by the Executive Committee at its February 2004 meeting, had been approved by the Officers at their June 2004 meeting.

He presented a framework budget for 2006. Its underlying assumption was that core programmes' income and expenditure would have to break even, with no deficit or shortfall, as by then programme fund balances would have been exhausted. The 2006 framework budget would be examined by the Finance Sub-Committee and would form the basis of the 2006 budget to be presented to the Central Committee at its February 2005 meeting.
Dean Gadegaard then described the tasks before the Finance Sub-Committee. He emphasized that the 2006 budget would have to be balanced, because, as Dr Temu had indicated, programme fund balances would by then be exhausted, and also because it was not possible to rely on fund-raising expectations. It was also expected that the downward trend in the total of membership contributions would continue.

The sub-committee would also discuss the capital expenditure plans for building and equipment renovation; examine the membership contribution structure in the light of experience;

make recommendations concerning the audit tender; and monitor the investment portfolio.

The Vice-Moderator invited comments on the report.

Dr Marion Best expressed concern at the termination of the post presently occupied by Dr Elizabeth Tapia, when she leaves Bossey at 31 December 2005. Was there no possibility of the post continuing?

The General Secretary, responding, stated that, on the basis of the present endowment income, it would not be possible to maintain the post and thus extend her contract.

Dr Best indicated that, on the departure of Dr Tapia, there would then be no woman on the Bossey faculty. She urged that a solution be found.

Dean Gadegaard, responding, said that the Bossey budget needed further examination.

The Vice-Moderator thanked Dean Gadegaard and Dr Temu for their report.

5 PUBLIC ISSUES – PAST ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS

Mrs Justice Sophia Adinyira, Vice-Moderator, presiding, invited Mr Peter Weiderud to give a presentation on public issues.

Mr Weiderud proposed to the Executive Committee that they issue a Statement on Korea, a Statement on Sudan, a Minute on Somalia and a Minute on Zimbabwe, for which he presented background material and drafts.

He commented that the Statement on Korea was being proposed not simply because of the venue of the present meeting, but because it was time for a more vigorous approach given the present situation on the Korean peninsula and the international attention it was receiving.

A Statement on Sudan would be timely, because the long-awaited peace was finally emerging, and also because of the disturbing development of conflict in the Dafur region.

He further presented a paper on Public Issues actions taken since the previous Executive Committee meeting. He gave a broad overview of certain situations:

In Israel/Palestine the situation had deteriorated in the past five months, with increasing political instability on each side. Christians were continuing to emigrate. EAPPI continued to be a relevant response to the situation. The CCIA had been giving priority attention to Israel/Palestine in this period.

Regarding Iraq, the Middle East Council of Churches had been providing confidential updates. Here, too, Christian families were emigrating. The recent bombing of churches had been condemned by MECC.

In Europe, the enlargement of the European Union had taken place and the Constitution of the European Union been approved. The churches had expressed satisfaction at the incorporation of common values in the Constitution, but some had been disappointed that it contained no explicit acknowledgment of Europe's Christian heritage.

Reunification proposals for Cyprus had been rejected by the Greek Cypriot community in the referendum, and thus only the southern (Greek) part of the island had acceded to the European Union. The CCIA was continuing to monitor the situation.

In the Balkans, tensions, especially between Christians and Muslims, continue to be stirred up by fear of 'the other'. The CCIA was continuing to monitor the situation.

Mrs Justice Adinyira expressed appreciation for the report and invited comments and discussion. She herself asked for news from West Africa.

Ms Carmencita Karagdag welcomed the proposals for statements and minutes. She had met Korean women involved in the peace movement, and they were fearing a pre-emptive strike by the USA on North Korea. Could this concern be reflected in the Korea Statement? She also wondered why there was no further statement on Iraq. The transfer of sovereignty had not changed the situation. Would it not be too long to wait until the next Central Committee before issuing a further statement?

Revd Iteffa Gobena welcomed the proposals. His own country (Ethiopia) bordered on Somalia. Describing the situation in Ethiopia and Eritrea, he stated that, although the war had ended, the problem of the disputed boundary remained, the two governments not having reached agreement. The churches (including the Roman Catholic Church) and the Muslim community had struggled with the issue. When the United Nations withdraws its presence later in the year, it would be easy for the two countries to go back to war. He appealed for prayer and that Ethiopia and Eritrea should continue to appear on the Public Issues agenda.

Bishop Dr Rolf Koppe requested continued close monitoring of the situation in Israel/Palestine and drew attention to the increasing emigration of Christians.

Revd Kim Soon-Kwon (NCCK President, in attendance) made comments on the proposed Statement on Korea. In return for North Korea becoming nuclear-free, it should be given assurance of security. Although North Korea was accepting aid, it refused to accept monitoring of it. North Korea should grant free access and be more transparent. He would submit written proposals to the Public Issues Sub-Committee.

Mr Weiderud, responding, stated that work had been done on West Africa, particularly on the Ivory Coast.
Regarding Israel/Palestine more statements had been made on this situation than on any other in recent years, and the WCC's position was already clear in existing documents.
Regarding Iraq, the situation had been discussed in May by CCIA, and by the General Secretary and the UN Secretary General at their meeting. The situation was constantly changing, with the military performing civilian functions, and a simple military withdrawal would make the situation even more difficult. An action would be proposed to the Central Committee at its February 2005 meeting.

The proposed draft statements and minutes were passed to the Public Issues Sub-Committee for examination and recommendation.

Mrs Justice Adinyira, moderating, thanked Mr Weiderud for his presentation and proposals.

6 PROGRAMME REPORT

Dr Marion Best, Vice-Moderator, presiding, invited Dr Elizabeth Ferris, in the absence of Ms Geneviève Jacques through family illness, to present the Programme Report.
Dr Ferris drew attention to the written report, prepared by Ms Jacques and previously distributed, and gave a power-point presentation with her own comments. It was a comprehensive review of the recent rich programmatic work of the WCC. She drew particular attention to the following:

- Preparations were underway for the International Inter-Religious Conference to be held, not this autumn, but 7-9 June 2005.
- The Decade to Overcome Violence had its annual focus on the USA in the current year and was being widely taken up, with the Afro-American churches particularly taking it on board.
- There had been much activity in the area of Faith and Order in preparation for the Commission meetings in Kuala Lumpur in July/August, and there had been two new publications: 'Worship Today: Understanding, Practice, Ecumenical Implications' and 'With a Demonstration of the Spirit and of Power'.
- Preparations were well in hand for the World Mission Conference, 9-16 May 2005, at the Agios Andreas Recreational Centre, Athens. It was doubly significant, as the first such conference to take place in an Orthodox country, and as involving a range of churches wider than the WCC membership.
- The two new commissions - the Churches' Commission on Justice, Peace and Creation and the Commission of the Churches on Diakonia and Development – and the CCIA had met separately and then together at Chavannes-de-Bogis in May.
- There had been a review of the relocation of the WCC Pacific Desk. The spirit in the Pacific churches was much improved and hard feelings were being overcome. The Programme Sub-Committee would be making recommendations to the present Executive Committee meeting.

Dr Best thanked Dr Ferris for her presentation and invited comments, which would be noted by the Programme Sub-Committee.

Ms Carmencita Karagdag regretted that the Programme Report had contained no mention of the Consultation for Women from the Global South, due shortly to take place in the Philippines.

Ms Idah Njobvu asked, in connection with the Pacific Desk relocation, how the Pacific Desk related to the Pacific Conference of Churches and enquired whether such relocations were a source of tension with the relevant REO.

Dean Anders Gadegaard asked why the Jerusalem Office of the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel, due to open in April, had not yet been established.

Mr John Doom was grateful for the Review of the Relocated WCC Office in the Pacific, and believed that Ms Njobvu was right in raising her questions. The WCC related to churches, and the question of WCC/REO relationships needed to be resolved, even if the office were re-relocated to Geneva.

Ms Donnalie Edwards-Cabey also agreed with the points raised by Ms Njobvu. The experience of relocation in the Pacific would have implications for other possible relocations, such as Latin America and the Caribbean, and we must learn from past experiences.

Mrs Justice Sophia Adinyira spoke of the importance of personal contact with the regions, and cited the recent WARC General Council in Ghana as having been valuable in this regard.

Revd Septemmy Lakawa had recently attended a meeting of the International Association for Mission Studies, where concern had been expressed about the disappearance of chairs of missiology from academic institutions. That made it all the more important for that discipline to be maintained in the Bossey faculty.

Revd Dr Maake Masango said that certain concerns of regional desks could be lost on relocation and care should be taken to avoid this.

Bishop Dr Rolf Koppe was particularly appreciative of the WCC's taking the lead in a process to set up a global ecumenical coalition to coordinate ecumenical participation in the next World Social Forum (Porto Alegre, January 2005). He asked for further information on the planned WCC/World Bank/International Monetary Fund High Level Encounter to be attended by governing bodies of the three organizations.

Staff were invited to respond to the discussion this far.

Dr Ferris, responding to Ms Karagdag, said that it had not been possible to mention many important activities in the report, such as the Philippines Women's Consultation.

Regarding the Pacific Desk relocation, a memorandum of understanding had been drawn up between the WCC and the PCC. The understanding was that the WCC would contribute a global dimension and the PCC a regional dimension. The review of the relocation needed to be considered in the context of reconfiguration. She agreed that what had been learned from the Pacific Desk relocation might be useful for a possible Caribbean relocation. Both regions had small island nations.

Mr Peter Weiderud gave an update on the establishment of the Jerusalem Ecumenical Centre. EAPPI had already had an office in Jerusalem for a long time, but the Ecumenical Centre was a tripartite project involving the WCC, the Middle East Council of Churches and the heads of churches in Jerusalem. It had taken time to reach agreement on staffing and location, but it was now hoped that the Jerusalem Ecumenical Centre would open early in 2005.

The General Secretary responded to Bishop Koppe's question on the WCC/WB/IMF High Level Encounter. There had been problems. First, the IMF had a new Director General and it would take time for him to be ready to participate. Secondly, there had been initial misunderstanding about the nature of the encounter. The desire was not to have a meeting of staff members to discuss programmes, but to have a meeting of members of governing bodies to discuss policies (on the WCC side that would mean members of the Central Committee and CCIA). There was a commitment on the part of the World Bank to have such an encounter.

Concerning Bossey and the chair of missiology, the WCC was committed to seeking funding and initial contacts had been made. The study of mission needed to be continued, but with greater emphasis on home mission. Mission in Europe and North America was important.

Revd Dr Clifton Kirkpatrick agreed that the mission needs of the North were important and, despite the shift in missiology away from overseas mission, mission studies remained an essential component of theological education in all places.

The Moderator, was critical of the nature of the report as being general and informative but not focussed and self-critical. He would have been grateful if staff had highlighted particular issues for consideration by the Executive Committee.

Very Revd Leonid Kishkovsky pointed out that the foreign missions from the USA to the rest of the world had never been stronger than at present, but much of the missionary activity was outside the ambit of the ecumenical churches.

Dean Anders Gadegaard felt that the nature of the report was as it should be. It gave a comprehensive overview of WCC activities and was so presented for the Programme Sub-Committee to examine and identify important elements. The staff were to be commended for the report.

Ms Idah Njobvu was surprised that there had been no evaluation of the Joint Working Group over its forty years' history.

Dr Ferris, responding, said that the report was intended as giving an account to the governing body of what had been done. A shorter, more focussed, but different, report could be produced.

Mr Alexander Belopopsky, also responding, pointed out that reporting is done in various ways: to the Executive and Central Committees as governing bodies, to donors, and to the public at large.

Mr Georges Lemopoulos, responding, said that the Joint Working Group had been evaluated in the course of its history and its mandate renewed twice. It had been established after the Second Vatican Council and its Decree on

Ecumenism, but its role had changed over the years, and now was the time to look at the future of our common journey.

Dr Best, presiding, drew attention to other documents to be considered, in addition to the Programme Report, by the Programme Sub-Committee: Review of the Relocated WCC Office in the Pacific; and briefing papers on Action by Churches Together (ACT) International, and Ecumenical News International (ENI).

Dr Ferris gave an informative power-point presentation on ACT International. Points made were: that ACT is not operational; it is strictly a co-ordinating body; there is declining fund income, particularly for chronic emergencies; whereas hitherto all WCC and LWF member churches had been automatically ACT members, they now had to apply formally for membership. Members were also given a printed report on the work of ACT for 2003.

Mr Alexander Belopopsky spoke on ENI. It was approaching its tenth anniversary, having been founded in 1994 with the active support of WCC in co-operation with three other institutional supporters. Dean Gadegaard was the present WCC representative on its Executive Committee. ENI was facing a difficult financial situation and, as its principal sponsor, the WCC had a particular responsibility for it.

Dr Best invited discussion.

Ms Carmencita Karagdag would have liked to see more coverage of news from the Philippines in ENI. The ENI local correspondent was not well known in the churches.

Bishop Dr Rolf Koppe felt that at present staff levels it was impossible to mount an adequate WCC press operation. More could have been made, for example, of the WCC's involvement in Sudan. It was necessary to examine the whole WCC information strategy, not only ENI, and, with the other sponsoring bodies, to examine their whole information policy.

Revd Dr Clifton Kirkpatrick observed that the situation of ACT and ENI pointed to a deeper issue, which needed to be taken into the reconfiguration discussion. They were our organizations and did our work, but they were independent of the WCC and were not widely known in the churches.

The Moderator remarked that at the founding of ENI there had been high expectations, but there were now many questions. Had ENI projected a credible image of the WCC? Before the WCC made a further commitment to ENI, an evaluation of ENI should be made.

Dean Anders Gadegaard, responding, agreed that the time was ripe for reconsideration of the role of ENI. We had to ask what vision we had for ENI in the future. ENI was an independent agency, but it needed to be sensitive to, and respond to, the needs of its sponsors.

These various matters were referred to the Programme Sub-Committee for consideration and recommendation.

7 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Dr Marion Best, Vice-Moderator, presiding, invited Mr Hubert van Beek to report on membership matters.

7.1 Proposed Amendments to the WCC Constitution and Rules

The proposed amendments had been sent to member churches in December 2003 with a request for initial responses by 31 May 2004, in time for consideration by the Steering Committee of the Special Commission in June 2004 and the present meeting of the Executive Committee. Among the few responses so far received, the major comments were as follows:

The Methodist Church of New Zealand was concerned about the reference in Rule I.3.a.I to the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed and feared the exclusion

of non-credal and non-sacramental churches. It was opposed to raising the minimum size for membership from 25,000 to 50,000 members.

The Evangelical Church in Germany considered that consensus should be legally defined before considering the new wording of Article II of the Constitution. Regarding 'churches in association with the WCC', it wished to see a clearer definition of the limits of their participation (especially in view of the fact that voting would be largely replaced by the consensus method) and asked whether such churches should not be required to make a financial contribution.

The Church of England, similarly, did not support the proposal that churches in association could enjoy many of the advantages of participating in the WCC while not being responsible for decisions and not being obliged to make a financial contribution.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland welcomed the theological criteria for membership but warned against language that could be interpreted as giving the WCC an ecclesial character. It also expressed surprise at the absence of financial obligations on churches in association. It agreed with increasing the minimum membership of applicant churches for WCC membership from 25,000 to 50,000, and hoped that smaller churches would form federations for joint membership.
The Reformed Church of France had serious objections to the proposed theological criteria: that it was inconsistent that the conditions should apply only to new members; that churches of the Reformation could not accept a text in contradiction with their fundamental principle of Sola Scriptura; and that ecclesiological criteria (ministry and baptism) were so emphasized as to create obstacles to the recognition of other churches. It asked for a serious review of the proposals before their presentation to the Ninth Assembly.

The Steering Committee of the Special Commission had examined these responses at its meeting in Minsk in June 2004. It had noted that the critical comments received from the Methodist Church of New Zealand and the Reformed Church of France were not necessarily representative of all the

member churches belonging to those traditions. Further clarification was needed. Such churches could discuss their objections with other member churches in the same country.

Regarding the new category of 'churches in association with the WCC', the Steering Committee had felt that this proposed category should be kept, but that the proposed Article should be revised, particularly in regard to financial contributions.

The Steering Committee had also raised the question as to how a response should be given to such major objections.

7.2 Non-Active Members

At present 32 member churches had neither paid any membership contribution nor responded to any letter sent by the General Secretary. The Officers at their meeting in June 2004, while agreeing that the 2003 Central Committee decisions should be implemented, none the less advised sensitivity, as implementation would entail that those churches would lose the opportunity to send delegates to the Ninth Assembly. The General Secretary would make a personalized approach to those churches.

7.3 Groupings of Churches for Participation and Representation

Mr van Beek gave a progress report on grouping of churches. This was particularly important in view of the need to elicit proposals for the post-Porto Alegre Central Committee membership. After the present meeting a letter would need to go to the churches encouraging them to engage in the grouping process especially with a view to Central Committee nominations.

7.4 Applications for Membership

7.4.1 New Applications

Mr van Beek presented three applications for consideration by the Executive Committee, two of them from francophone churches in West Africa, the first ever applications from their countries. They were from the Protestant Evangelical Church of Guinea and the Association of Evangelical Reformed Churches of Burkina Faso.

He apologized for the fact that it had not been possible to include an Orthodox member in the delegation visiting those churches, as requested by the February 2004 Executive Committee meeting, but the visits had taken place only one week after that meeting and by then the delegation had already been formed. But that requirement had not been forgotten.

The third application was from the Protestant Church in the Netherlands. On 1 May 2004 three WCC member churches in the Netherlands – the Netherlands Reformed Church, the Reformed Churches in the Netherlands and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Kingdom of the Netherlands - had united to form the Protestant Church in the Netherlands. That church was now requesting membership in continuation of the membership of the three former member churches.

Discussion

Fr Dr K M George wondered whether membership applications should be held over until the Assembly.

The Moderator questioned the formulation 'Jesus Christ as only Saviour' in the description of the belief of the Protestant Evangelical Church of Guinea.

Mrs Justice Sophia Adinyira knew the Protestant Evangelical Church of Guinea and supported their application.
Mr van Beek, responding, reminded the Committee that it had been decided to resume consideration of membership applications at the February 2005 Central Committee meeting. He reassured the Moderator that the formulation 'as only Saviour' was a translation from the French, in which language it was entirely acceptable.

The three applications were passed to the Staffing and Nominations Sub-Committee for detailed consideration and recommendation.

7.4.2. The Eternal Sacred Order of Cherubim and Seraphim, Nigeria

Concerning the pending application from the Eternal Sacred Order of Cherubim and Seraphim, Nigeria, the Christian Council of Nigeria had declared its support for its membership application. A further visit to the church could be arranged.

7.4.3 The Church of Christ in Congo

Concerning churches in the Democratic Republic of Congo, an application from the Church of Christ in Congo (CCC) was expected. The CCC had 65 member communities, of which eight were already WCC member churches and a further three member churches indirectly through the United Methodist Church. In order to avoid a situation like Indonesia, it had been hoped that that the CCC would apply for membership.

It had hitherto been unable to do this, as its constitution had contained an article stating its neutrality with regard to the WCC and the World Evangelical Alliance (WEC). A National Synod meeting of the CCC, shortly before the present Executive Committee meeting, had amended the constitution and the CCC was now in process of applying for membership of both the WCC and the WEC.

7.5 Withdrawal from Membership

Notification had been received from the Evangelical Methodist Church in Costa Rica in the form of a short letter that it had decided to withdraw from associate membership of the WCC. The church was a member of CLAI. It would be further contacted to ascertain the reasons for the withdrawal and to demonstrate the pastoral concern of the WCC before the notification was formally acted on.

Bishop Dr Koppe had heard that a church in the Czech Republic had requested to withdraw from membership and asked for clarification.

The General Secretary, responding, said that the church in question had never in fact been a WCC member. Further clarification was being sought from the Conference of European Churches.

7.6 The Kimbanguist Church

Mr van Beek presented a background paper detailing the history of the Kimbanguist Church and its relationship with the WCC up to the meeting with the church's Theological Commission and its Spiritual Chief, 5-7 July 2004. That meeting had been with a joint delegation of the All Africa Conference of Churches, the Organization of African Instituted Churches and the WCC. The members of the delegation had been:

AACC: Revd Arnold Temple and Revd Dr Kasonga wa Kasonga
OAIC: Archbishop Njeru Wambugu and Revd Dr John Padwick
WCC: Revd Dr David Yemba and Mr Hubert van Beek

In preparation for the meeting with the Theological Commission, four

questions focussing on the Kimbanguist understanding of the Trinity had been sent in advance.
On behalf of the Theological Commission, Dr Alipanazanga, of the Kimbanguist faculty, had presented a paper responding to the questions. Discussion had followed.

The particularity of Kimbanguist teaching was that it attributes the possibility of incarnation to each of the three Persons of the Trinity in 'symbolizings'. In this sense, the three sons of Simon Kimbangu had been 'symbolizings' of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. They do not, however, replace the Divine Trinity.

None the less, much popular religiosity in the Kimbanguist Church identified the three sons with the Trinity, and it was clear that the Theological Commission, while claiming its adherence to the WCC Basis, also had to take this popular religiosity into account.

In the meeting with the Spiritual Chief, Simon Kimbangu Kiangani, he had affirmed that the Kimbanguist Church would stay with the 1968 Basis of the Church, which 'recognizes Jesus Christ as the only Saviour and Simon Kimbangu as his witness' and on which its WCC membership was based. The members of the Theological Commission had stated that their work was still in process and had hardly begun, and had pleaded that the WCC and the AACC should patiently accompany the process.

Mr van Beek also gave details of the difficult relationships, because of Kimbanguist teaching, with the Church of Christ in Congo and the Roman Catholic Church. He also reported on conversations with Bishop Mvume Dandala, AACC General Secretary. The AACC would be meeting in October and was not prepared at the present moment to take any decisive action. It was the wish of the AACC that discussion with the Church should continue for another year.

Discussion

The Moderator pleaded that discussion with the Kimbanguist Church should not be too protracted. If it went on too long, it could create problems with some, particularly Orthodox, churches.

Ms Idah Njobvu remarked that others were looking to the WCC to give a lead on this issue and we needed to consider how it could be brought to a conclusion.

The matter was referred to the Staffing and Nominations Sub-Committee for further consideration and recommendation.

8 CONSENSUS PROCEDURES

8.1 Progress Report

Dr Marion Best, Vice-Moderator, presiding, invited Mr Georges Lemopoulos to report.

Mr Lemopoulos gave a progress report on the drafting of the new Rules of Procedures for Meetings according to the consensus method.

He observed that consensus was one of the two areas where the work of the Special Commission had produced a concrete result. (The other was the area of membership.) Following the last Executive Committee meeting, member churches, Central Committee members and the Special Commission had been invited to comment on the draft Rule XVI: Conduct of Meetings and the Working Draft: Manual for Meeting Procedures. Few responses had been received, but from them two positive conclusions could be drawn: that the move to the consensus mode and the overall spirit and content of the new Rule XVI were not challenged; and the Steering Committee had accepted the combination of consensus and voting procedures, which differed from the original proposals.

Responses had also stressed that, in moving to the consensus mode, preparation, education and commitment were much more important than the actual wording of the rules.

Discussion

HG Archbishop Nifon observed that the Orthodox had accepted the consensus method with enthusiasm and it was important for the Council to accept it. He enquired what progress had been made in the preparation of the Manual.

Mr Lemopoulos, responding, said that preparations were well advanced and a first version would be presented to the Central Committee in February 2005.

The Moderator reiterated that consensus and membership were the two areas where there were quantifiable results from the work of the Special Commission. There were still outstanding issues to be resolved, but he believed that we were moving forward in the area of consensus.

Dean Anders Gadegaard enquired what the outstanding problems were.

Mr Lemopoulos, responding, mentioned two: the relationship of the Russian Orthodox Church with the Russian Church abroad, and the issue of membership contributions.

Rt Revd Dr Zacharias Mar Theophilus, as a member of the Steering Committee, expressed his disappointment at the slowness of the response to the work of the Special Commission.

Bishop Dr Rolf Koppe expressed his hope that acceptance of the new membership contribution structure by Orthodox churches would be another concrete, quantifiable result of the work of the Special Commission.

Very Revd Leonid Kishkovsky declared that we now had a map indicating the way forward. We had yet to walk the road following the map.

The challenge was also an opportunity: to pass on the vision and experience of the Special Commission to the whole WCC constituency.

Mr Lemopoulos, responding to Bishop Koppe, pointed out that it was not only Orthodox churches who were challenging the new membership contributions. It was unfortunate that the process had drawn undue attention to contributions from the Orthodox churches. A church's commitment to the WCC was not to measured in financial terms.

8.2 Presentation by Revd Dr D'Arcy Wood

Mrs Justice Sophia Adinyira, Vice-Moderator, presiding, reiterated the welcome to Dr D'Arcy Wood, Uniting Church in Australia, and invited him to speak to the Committee on the consensus method of decision taking.

Dr Wood described the experience of the Uniting Church in Australia, which had moved to a consensus model in all its councils in 1994. It had been a major change and after ten years' experience, people had grown used to it and no one wished to return to the former Westminster parliamentary model. The consensus model was more inclusive and more flexible, and people came away from meetings with the sense that together they had been doing the work of the Lord.

He felt that a change to the consensus model would signal a major change of ethos in the WCC. The Special Commission had stated that the change would encourage Orthodox participation, but it had become clear that it would be helpful to all churches.

There was no such thing as a single consensus model. The Uniting Church in Australia had adopted one model; the World Alliance of Reformed Churches at its recent General Council had worked with a different one; and the WCC would develop its own. He had observed that there were already some elements of the consensus model in the way in which the Executive Committee was conducting its business.

The proposed new Rule XVI would be a starting point but it would need to be refined in the light of experience.

The fundamental reasons for such a change were: that the Holy Spirit is given to the whole body of Christ and consensus witnesses to that; and that in church councils we are seeking the mind of Christ, which is best done in an atmosphere of mutual trust.

He concluded by emphasizing that the Manual would be an important tool in the process, and thanked the Committee for the opportunity to address them.

Members of the Executive Committee who had been present at the WARC General Council then added their remarks.

Revd Dr Clifton Kirkpatrick spoke of the different history behind the introduction of consensus in WARC. They had not had a special commission. Consensus had been discussed and tried out in their Executive Committee and they had become comfortable with it. In the WARC General Council there had been a greater sense of common ownership of the decisions. Concerning introduction of consensus into WCC governing bodies, it was important for it to be practised in the next Central Committee meeting so that there would be a good number who had already grown to be comfortable with it.

Revd Dr Maake Masango emphasized the value of the indicator cards, when crossed, indicating the wish of participants to move the discussion forward. It enabled them to make the point with grace and dignity.

Revd Iteffa Gobena said that consensus had worked well. It had been good the have Dr Jill Tabart at the WARC General Council as coach. We would need a mentor like her.

Mrs Justice Sophia Adinyira, moderating, who had been an ecumenical observer, commented on the value of the role-play conducted by Dr Tabart to introduce the WARC General Council to the consensus process. She then invited further comments.

There was considerable discussion. Salient points made were as follows.

In a multi-lingual meeting, where many were not working in their first language, it was important for all to be able to follow the flow of the discussion. The moderator would need to state from time to time where the discussion had reached.

It might have been easier for WARC to introduce consensus, because all its member churches would share a common Reformed ethos.
Divisive decisions should be avoided. If a decision was going to prove divisive, it might be better to discontinue the discussion rather than move to the voting process.

In the Uniting Church in Australia fewer decisions were now being made, but it was taking longer to arrive at them. Such decisions were more solid and participants were more committed to them.

At the next Central Committee meeting, it would be necessary at the beginning of each session to announce its category: general, hearing or decision.

The consensus process would also apply to committees, commissions and advisory groups.

The Vice-Moderator thanked Dr Wood for his presentation and participation in the discussion.

9 PREPARATIONS FOR CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING FEBRUARY 2005

Mrs Justice Sophia Adinyira, Vice-Moderator, presiding, invited the General Secretary to speak to this item.

The General Secretary presented a draft agenda for the Central Committee meeting, 15-22 February 2005. The general overarching focus for the meeting could be 'Healing and Reconciliation'.

In addition to the opening actions and the Moderator's and General Secretary's reports and discussion on them on the first day, there could be an introduction to the consensus procedures to be followed in the course of the meeting. Only one session had been allocated to regional meetings, but further meetings would be possible in the evenings. Two evenings had been allocated to confessional meetings, two on one night and two on the other. There were five hearings proposed on: Faith and Order, the Focus on Africa, Inter-Religious Dialogue, ACT International (especially on relief in Iraq), and Ecumenical Spirituality. Committee meetings would begin earlier in the flow of the business.

Of particular importance at this meeting would be a plenary presentation on human sexuality. This was necessary to fulfil the Harare mandate that 'The WCC should offer space and direction for conversation and consultation enabling member churches to discuss... difficult issues – including human sexuality – which cause division within and among its member churches.' An outline of the possible flow of the presentation with proposed participants was given.

There was considerable initial discussion on the proposed presentation on human sexuality. Among the points made were:

- Was it premature to have such a presentation? Was the Central Committee and were some churches able to deal confidently with this issue?

- Could there be a more general title, such as 'human anthropology', that would provide an entry point for this issue?
- The intention was not to take up a WCC position on the subject, but to provide space for churches to share their experiences and to listen to one another. It would be a service offered to the churches.
- Any discussion ran the risk of being diverted into a divisive discussion on the right of gay persons to be ordained.
- There had been Bossey seminars and Central Committee hearings on the subject, with no untoward results, but a Central Committee plenary would inevitably have a higher profile.
- The Central Committee had the obligation to fulfil the Harare mandate and would need to report to the Assembly that it had done so. It would not be necessary for the Assembly to debate the issue.
- From an African point of view, this could be seen as an item on the agenda of churches of the North, but, if one part of the body hurts, the whole body hurts.
- It would be explained at the beginning of the presentation that this was going to be, according to consensus procedures, a hearing session, during which no decisions could be made.
- Other Harare mandates have been fulfilled in the form of programmes. There had been no programmatic mandate from the Central Committee for this matter, and it had thus remained within the remit of the General Secretariat.
- The whole Central Committee had the right to consider this issue. A hearing at a Central Committee meeting did not adequately fulfil the mandate.

Dean Anders Gadegaard, referring to the first day's programme, considered that insufficient time was allocated to training in consensus procedures, and suggested that the Moderator and General Secretary give only brief introductions to their reports, which would have been distributed before the meeting.

The proposed programme for the Central Committee meeting in February 2005 was referred to the Programme Sub-Committee for consideration and recommendation.

10 PREPARATIONS FOR THE NINTH ASSEMBLY

Mrs Justice Sophia Adinyira, Vice-Moderator, presiding, invited Mr Georges Lemopoulos to speak to a written report on the Assembly preparations.

Mr Lemopoulos distinguished between the Assembly programme, for which the Assembly Planning Committee had responsibility, and the Assembly business, for which the Executive and Central Committees had direct responsibility.

He presented various items on the business agenda of the Assembly requiring recommendation by the Executive Committee to the Central Committee:

- At the Eighth Assembly the nominations process took place early to avoid undue politicization of it. For this Assembly, it was proposed to have it towards the end.
- To avoid duplication and unnecessary complexity, it was proposed, following the advice of the Assembly Planning Committee, to have only one Policy Reference Committee, instead of two.
- It was also proposed that Assembly committees be of a size equal to that of the current Executive Committee, with similar regional, confessional and gender balances.
- The previous meeting of the Executive Committee had decided to keep on hold the proposal to create a new participant category of 'advisers to delegations' for possible further consideration, and had also asked the General Secretary to reflect on how the Council could best make use of member churches' ecumenical officers to strengthen support for the WCC. It was now suggested that a new participant category of 'advisers to delegations' be created and that member churches be invited, if they so wished, to send their ecumenical officers to the Assembly under this category.
- Concerning the questioning by some churches of the number of seats being allocated to their delegations, the suggestion was that the General Secretary should deal with such requests case by case, and

bring those he considered justified to the Executive Committee for action.

Mr Alexander Belopopsky then gave a power point presentation on the Assembly logo.

There was initial discussion on the proposals.

Dean Anders Gadegaard congratulated the staff on the inspiring logo.

HE Metropolitan Gennadios of Sassima was concerned at the creation of a new participant category. That proposal by the Officers had been rejected by the Executive Committee at their last meeting and, if accepted, could result in a large increase in the number of participants.

Dr Marion Best asked how these 'advisers to delegations' would fit into decision making by the consensus process. She was also in favour of having only one Policy Reference Committee.

Mr Lemopoulos, responding, said that a large number of member churches' ecumenical officers would be present anyway, but, under the present categorization, as 'visitors'. Placing them in the category of 'advisers to delegations' would be an acknowledgment of their important role. Their presence would not be a financial burden on the Council. They would be permitted to request permission to speak during Hearing Sessions, but Decision Sessions were reserved for delegates.

The General Secretary, also responding, said that, at the request of the Executive Committee, he had reflected how we might make best use of ecumenical officers, and he felt that the creation of this category of 'advisers to delegations' was the way forward. Most would be present anyway. While some churches would appoint them as delegates, this additional category would help those churches having a problem with a reduction in their delegate numbers. Advisers to delegations who were ecumenical officers of churches in

the South would be able to seek subsidies from Specialized Ministries/Agencies.

The above proposals were passed to the Staffing and Nominations Sub-Committee for further consideration and recommendation.

11 PRE-ASSEMBLY EVALUATION PROGRESS REPORT

The Moderator, presiding, invited Dr Marion Best to present a report on the progress of the Pre-Assembly Evaluation.

Dr Best stated that the Pre-Assembly Evaluation team (Fr George Tsetsis, Ms Sylvia Raulo, Dr William Ogara and herself) had already met twice and two further meetings were planned in the current year.

Survey forms had been sent out to Specialized Ministries, Central Committee members, Advisory Group/Commission members, NCCs, REOs, church leaders and member churches. There had been an uneven response, but the response from member churches (26.7% to date) was reckoned to be a reasonable return. The response by regions was particularly uneven, ranging from 9% from Africa to 58.8% from the Pacific.

All programme staff had been interviewed about their work and had provided names of persons to be interviewed about their programmes. There would be constituency interviews in the form of 45-minute phone calls, or, where possible, in person.

A preliminary report would go to the Programme Committee at the Central Committee meeting in February 2005.
A final report would then be prepared for the Assembly Programme Guidelines Committee and an Executive Summary would appear in the From Harare to Porto Alegre report to Assembly.

Discussion

The Moderator enquired where the Pre-Assembly Evaluation Report appeared in the Central Committee agenda for February 2005. He asked Executive Committee members to encourage responses from their constituencies.

Fr Dr K M George mentioned the resistance to completing such survey forms in certain cultures.

HG Archbishop Nifon of Targoviste enquired about the level of Orthodox responses, and advised caution in the light of the possible margin of error in such surveys.

Dr Best, responding, said that at the Central Committee meeting the report would be included in the Programme Report. Orthodox responses were not separated out and so no indication could be given as to the level of Orthodox participation. The low level of response to date from some regions would hopefully be improved by the phone interviews.

The Moderator, in thanking Dr Best for the report, described her as the driving force in the process.

12 STAFFING

12.1 Contract extensions and other information

The Moderator, in a closed session, invited the General Secretary to present the Staffing Report.

The General Secretary reported that there were no new appointments, departures or vacancies to be announced.
He proposed the following contract extensions:

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Inter-Religious Relations and Dialogue

Revd Dr Hans UCKO (Sweden, Church of Sweden), Programme Executive, from 1 September 2005, indefinite contract (will complete 16 years on 31 August 2005).

DOV (Decade to overcome violence)

Mr Hans-Ulrich GERBER (Switzerland, Mennonite Church in Bern), DOV Co-Ordinator/Consultant, from 1 November 2005, 3 years contract extension with the request of modifying the current status of Consultant to DOV Programme Executive on 1 November 2005 (will complete 3 years on 31 October 2005).

PROGRAMME

Faith & Order

Revd Dr Thomas BEST (USA, Disciples of Christ), Programme Executive, Acting TC and Acting Director for Faith & Order, from 1 January 2006, indefinite contract (will complete 21 years on 31 December 2005).

Rev Kersten STORCH (Federal Republic of Germany, EKD/Lutheran), Programme Executive (EKD secondment), from 1 September 2005, 2 years contract extension according to the EKD's recommendation (will complete 4 years on 31 August 2005).

Diakonia & Solidarity

Dr Elizabeth FERRIS (USA, Society of Friends General Conference), Programme Executive and TC, from 1 November 2005, indefinite contract (will complete 7 years on 31 October 2005).

Revd Dr André KARAMAGA (Rwanda, Presbyterian Church of Rwanda), Programme Executive for Africa, from 1 January 2006, 3 years extension (will complete 4 years on 31 December 2005).

Ms Marta PALMA (Chile, Pentecostal Mission Church), Programme Executive for Latin America & Caribbean, from 1 October 2005, indefinite contract (will complete 19 years on 30 September 2005), by mutual agreement up to 31 October 2006.

International Affairs

UN Office New-York

Revd Laurence BROPLEH (Liberia/USA, United Methodist Church), Programme Executive UN Representative (will complete 2 years on 31 August 2005). Request of postponing contract extension to the next Executive Committee, after planned assessment at the end of 2004.

The Executive Committee **authorized** the General Secretary to proceed with the above contract extensions, the legal obligations of the World Council of Churches to be binding only as from the actual signing by both parties of the corresponding contract extensions.

The General Secretary added, for information:

PROGRAMME

APPOINTMENTS

Diakonia & Solidarity

Mr Matti PEIPONEN (Finland, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland), Programme Executive for Europe, from 1 September 2004, 4 years contract (appointed by postal vote by the Officers of the Executive Committee in April 2004).

International Affairs

Mr Jonathan FRERICHS (USA, New Hope Lutheran Church, Columbia/Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), Programme Executive for International Affairs, Peace & Human Security, from 27 September 2004, 4 years contract (appointed by the Officers' meeting in May 2004).

Ms Salpy ESKIDJIAN (Cyprus, Armenian Apostolic Church (Oriental), Programme Consultant for Middle East, from 1 September 2004, 8 months contract.

Jerusalem Ecumenical Center (JEC)

Revd and Ms Chris & Susan FERGUSON (Canada, United Church of Canada), Seconded Programme Consultants in Jerusalem for the JEC.

Justice, Peace & Creation

Mr Lukasz NAZARCO (Poland, Autocephalous Orthodox Church in Poland), Programme Consultant for JPC, from 1 September 2004, 21 months contract.

CONTRACT EXTENSION

Mission & Ecumenical Formation

Dr Christoph MANN (Federal Republic of Germany, Evangelical Church of Württemberg), Project Manager, Consultant HIV/AIDS, from 01.06.2004, 2 years contract extension.

DEPARTURE

Justice, Peace & Creation

Revd Freddy KNUTSEN (Norway, Church of Norway), departure already announced: final departure date on 31 October 2004.

VACANCIES

Faith & Order

Director, Commission on Faith & Order/TC (replacement of Revd Dr Alan FALCONER). Search process extended in consultation with the Officers of Faith & Order.

International Affairs

EAPPI, International Co-ordinator and Project Manager – Consultant (Geneva based), deadline for receiving applications 31 August 2004.

EAPPI, Local Programme Co-ordinator - Consultant (Jerusalem based), selection process in August 2004.

He also presented, for information, a list of staff in role classification Leadership and Programme Staff.

12.2 Director, Faith and Order Commission

HE Metropolitan Dr Gennadios of Sassima informed the Committee that the Faith and Order Plenary Commission had not been able to make a recommendation of a candidate for appointment as Director, Faith and Order Commission, to the present Executive Committee meeting. The search process had been extended and the deadline for applications/nominations was now 31 March 2005. Short-listed candidates would be interviewed by the Standing Commission in June 2005 and its recommendation of a candidate for appointment would now come to the Executive Committee in September 2005. The start date for the person appointed would hopefully be 1 January 2006.

There was widespread dismay in the Executive Committee at this delay. Points made in the ensuing discussion included:

- The Standing Commission had insisted that they themselves do the screening and interviewing of candidates.

- They were unable, because of many existing academic commitments, to meet before June 2005. It would thus be impossible, and in any case expensive, to call an extraordinary meeting. The possibility of interviews by Faith and Order Officers and appointment by post had been discussed and rejected. It was thus impossible for a name to be presented to the February 2005 Executive Committee meeting.
- Appreciation of the quality of the work being done by Revd Dr Thomas Best as Acting Director was expressed.
- It was important that our commitment to Faith and Order be matched by the professional competence of the staff, not only the new Director, but also all other new staff.
- It was regrettable in view of the urgency of the situation that the Standing Commission should proceed so slowly.
- Appreciation was expressed to Metropolitan Dr Gennadios for his leadership.

The Executive Committee finally **agreed** that it was willing to approve by post the nomination by the Faith and Order Standing Commission immediately after its meeting in June 2005, in the hope that the person appointed would thus be able to take up the post sooner than 1 January 2006.

Revd Dr Clifton Kirkpatrick, at the end of the closed session, expressed the appreciation of the Executive Committee to the General Secretary for his work in the area of staffing at this early stage in his tenure of office.

13 REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ISSUES SUB-COMMITTEE

The Very Revd Leonid Kishkovsky, assisted by **Mr Peter Weiderud,** presented the report of the Public Issues Sub-Committee.

Various comments and proposals for minor amendments were then made by members of the Committee and Mr Weiderud responded.

13.1 Statement on Korea

We cry out to you from the depths of despair
over the division of Korea,
which is the victim of a divided world.
You came to this world as the servant of peace,
You provided love and peace.
You commanded us to love each other.
We rejoice in your promises and recognise your blessings.
You have given us signs of hope in the midst of despair.
(Extract from World Day of Prayer –
the Reunification of Korea)

The Korean Peninsula remains a flash point in the region. It has the potential to ignite a major conflagration. At the end of the Cold War a number of significant steps were taken to leave behind half a century of confrontation and hostilities. These, amongst others, include the former President Kim Dae Jung's "Sunshine Policy" of engagement to improve inter-Korean relations that led to the historic inter-Korean summit and the 2000, 15th June Joint Declaration between North and South Korea; and the October 21st 1996, agreed framework between the United States and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that provided a basis for dialogue to pave the way for a more broad-based approach to resolve conflict. These positive developments received a setback as a result of post-September 11 events that have had profound implications for security and stability throughout Northeast Asia. The US Administration's inclusion of North Korea (the DPRK) in an "axis of evil" further escalated tensions between the two countries making the situation in the Peninsula volatile. Since then, for some two years US and North Korea have been locked in showdown over the North's nuclear programme. North Korea became in 2003 the first country to withdraw from the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The multilateral process of Six Party Talks, comprising North and South Korea, Russia, Japan, China and the US, that began in August 2003 in Beijing

are now in the third round. This initiative provides sign of hope. The parties have agreed to work towards a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula and most share the view that North Korea's concern over its security must be given due consideration and resolved.

The churches in Korea, in close collaboration with the World Council of Churches, have played a pioneering role in initiating and supporting the discussions on peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula and its people. An effective framework for international ecumenical cooperation for this was put in place at an International Consultation at Tozanso, Japan, in 1984. This framework provided an impetus to the reunification movement and was instrumental in bringing church leaders from North and South Korea together in prayer, worship and sharing of each other's concerns for peace and reconciliation.

In view of the historical role of the Korean churches in relation to the reunification issue, coupled with the August 2003 initiative of the Six Party Talks to find a peaceful resolution of the conflict, the CCIA Commission in its meeting of May 2004 decided to focus on peace and reunification of the Korean Peninsula till the next WCC Assembly at Porto Alegre in 2006.
The promotion and protection of human rights and human dignity are an integral part of the mission of the churches. The ecumenical movement continues to be concerned by reports of human rights violations in the DPRK and denial of access to international human rights organisations.

The grave humanitarian crisis of hunger, chronic malnutrition and related diseases facing the North Korean people are a challenge not only to the churches, but also to the conscience of the entire international community. The churches and their related agencies have addressed these immense needs of the people of North Korea to prevent the humanitarian crisis from becoming a major catastrophe.

Giving thanks to God for the persistent struggle of the Korean people and the witness of the Korean churches for peaceful reunification of the Peninsula and

its people, the Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches meeting in Seoul, Korea, August 24-27 2004:

reaffirms the Policy Statement on the Peace and Reunification of Korea adopted by the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, Moscow, 1989;
expresses once again its solidarity, with deep appreciation for the courageous witness and leadership of the National Council of Churches in Korea and its member churches;
reiterates its respect for the sovereignty of the Korean people to determine their future;
encourages and supports the implementation of the "Sunshine Policy" of engagement; the June 2000 Summit between North and South Korea to promote social, cultural and economic exchange programmes; the agreement between South and North Korea on non-aggression, reconciliation, exchange and co-operation of December 13, 1991; and facilitation of opportunities for family reunion involving greater number of Koreans;
calls on member churches in Korea as well as in other parts of the world to mobilise support for the Six Party Talks being held in Beijing in order to reach a formal peace treaty;
urges the government of North Korea to abandon all uranium enrichment and plutonium extraction programmes and move towards a fully verifiable return to a status of non-nuclear state party to the NPT;
further urges the participants of the Six Party Talks to give due consideration to the DPRK's concern for its security in order to resolve this conflict, including eliciting assurances from the US not to take pre-emptive military action against the DPRK nor, under any circumstances, use nuclear weapons against the DPRK, as a non-nuclear party to the NPT;
appeals to the international community to call for lifting of sanctions against the DPRK and for full restoration of humanitarian aid and assistance, including food to cope with the crisis of hunger and chronic malnutrition in the country;
requests the Government of the DPRK to ensure transparency in the distribution of aid and provide access to all affected areas;

asks the churches and the related agencies to continue their efforts to address the humanitarian needs of the people of North Korea.

13.2 Statement on Sudan

1. Sudan has been plagued by war for all but a short period since its independence in 1956, primarily due to unequal distribution of wealth and power sharing, between north and south, centre and periphery. It is the largest country of the continent and shares boundaries with nine African states. Unless the Government of Sudan finds the way to peaceful co-existence between all Sudanese people and also with its neighbours, lasting and just peace will be difficult.

2. The first civil war lasted for 17 years before a peace deal was brokered with the facilitation of the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) in 1972. In 1983, civil war erupted again between the government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement (SPLA/M) as a result of failure to implement the 1972 agreement. Estimates are that 2.5-3 million people have died as a result of the war and over 4 million have fled their homes, many to neighbouring countries. Religious intolerance has made the conflict deeper.

3. The conflict between the North and the South finally has the potential to end, due to the peace framework developed by the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD). The signing of the Machakos Protocol in July 2002 marked a turning point towards a just and lasting peace between the government and SPLA/M. This protocol brought a cessation of hostilities and recognition of the right of self-determination for Southern Sudan. It was followed by five other protocols signed in 2003 and 2004. The agreements in the last three protocols addressed the most contentious and difficult issues. After six years of an interim period there will be a referendum in the South when the people will have the right to vote on unified Sudan or for separation. The success of the peace process is largely due to the

pressure placed on both parties by the IGAD countries under the leadership of Kenya and the "friends of IGAD" – Norway, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

4. A Comprehensive Peace Agreement is expected to be signed shortly. This agreement will have two basic components: a comprehensive cease–fire and modalities for its implementation. Negotiation for the Comprehensive Peace Agreement has already begun and both sides have expressed optimism that a final agreement will soon be concluded.

5. There has been an active participation in Sudan from the WCC and member churches for more than 20 years. The Sudan Ecumenical Forum (SEF), to facilitate the role of the churches in peace making, appointed Revd Dr Samuel Kobia Special Ecumenical Envoy for Sudan in 2002. Churches and related agencies in Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the UK and the US actively accompany the Sudanese churches throughout this difficult period.

6. While the ecumenical movement was monitoring the hopeful developments in the negotiation between the Government and the SPLA/M, reports started to come about the serious atrocities in Darfur. The UN officials have referred to the conditions in Darfur as the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today. The conflict between the rebels (the Sudan Liberation Army and the Justice and Equality Movement) and the pro-government militia, known as the Janjaweed, has resulted in a campaign of terror, led by the latter, against the predominantly African civilian population. Almost a quarter of the population of about 6 million people have fled their homes. It is estimated that around 30,000 people have died over the last 17 months and fears have been expressed that many more may die over the next months unless a political solution is found.

7. The World Council of Churches, the All Africa Conference of Churches, the Sudan Ecumenical Forum and the churches of Sudan

have made several statements and other interventions condemning the atrocities in Darfur and have urged the Government of Sudan to bring them to an end.

8. The Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches meeting in Seoul from 24-27 August 2004, conscious of the agony and affliction of the people of Sudan and especially the women and children in the South and in Darfur:

8.1 <u>On Southern Sudan</u>

- *welcomes* the peace protocols signed between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement on 26 May 2004, and encourages the parties to sign a final comprehensive peace agreement as soon as possible and ensure its full implementation;

- *acknowledges* the efforts and the sacrifices made by the people of Sudan in their struggle for peace and appreciates the support given by the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the Governments of Kenya, the USA, Norway, the UK, Italy and Switzerland and urges the international community to ensure the signing of the comprehensive peace agreement and to monitor its implementation;

8.2 On Darfur

- *expresses* its deep concern and dismay at the ongoing humanitarian disaster and the gross human rights violations;

- *urges* the Government of Sudan to fulfil its obligations to protect its civilian population and to disarm the pro-Government militia - the Janjaweed - and calls on the parties to the conflict to respect the cease–fire and work for peace and reconciliation;

- *calls* on the African Union and the United Nations to insist on the full deployment of independent Human Rights and cease-fire monitoring teams, investigate war crimes and provide for the presence of an adequate international peace keeping force;

- *appeals* to the neighbouring countries and the SPLA/M to assist in establishing alternative routes for the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Darfur.

8.3 On the role of the churches

- *encourages* the Sudan Council of Churches, the New Sudan Council of Churches and the Sudanese churches to fulfil their specific ministry of forgiveness and reconciliation at all levels of society;

- *expresses* its appreciation to the Sudan Ecumenical Forum for the intensive and effective advocacy and efforts undertaken during the last ten years and urges it to continue with its international advocacy work;

- *appreciates* and encourages the Action by Churches Together (ACT) International to continue its humanitarian support and urges all humanitarian actors to provide generous support for all those in need in the affected areas in Sudan;

- *urges* the ecumenical fellowship to enhance the capacity of the Sudanese churches and its councils to enable them to respond effectively to the emerging challenges;

- *calls* on the WCC, the AACC and the SEF to join the efforts to advocate for generous and substantial international support for the task of rehabilitation, reconstruction, repatriation, healing and reconciliation work of the churches.

13.3 Minute on Somalia

1. Somalia has been without an effective, recognised government for the last 13 years. According to UN statistics, as a result of the civil war about 1 million people have died and hundreds of thousands of Somalis have fled to the neighbouring countries, other parts of Africa as well as to Europe and North America.

2. The Inter-Governmental Agency for Development (IGAD) Facilitation Committee under the leadership of Ambassador Bethuel Kiplagat, the Moderator of the CCIA, has made a substantial contribution to seeking a lasting solution to the national crisis of Somalia. The current peace initiative is more inclusive than the previous one, with participation of all key stakeholders, the warlords and traditional leaders. Somali businessmen who have a major influence both at political and economic levels are also involved. These efforts have been directed towards securing nomination for 275 members of parliament from the Clans and Sub-Clans. Recently, the IGAD Ministerial Facilitation Committee inaugurated the new Somalia Parliament. After this, as a next step, there will be elections of Speaker, Deputy Speaker and nominations of Prime Minister and Ministers.

The Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches meeting in Seoul from 24-27 August 2004, aware of the major crisis of Somalia:

supports the effort of the IGAD Ministerial Facilitation Committee as it seeks lasting peace for Somalia;

requests the WCC to share information with the member churches about the current developments on Somalia for the purpose of awareness-building, advocacy and assistance for rehabilitation, resettlement and reconciliation;

encourages the WCC to work in collaboration with other civil society groups active in Somalia;

appreciates and encourages the efforts of Ambassador Bethuel Kiplagat and the Ministerial Facilitating Committee and assures them of its support;

calls on the member churches to keep the people of Somalia in their prayers.

13.4 Minute on Zimbabwe

1. There is long standing ecumenical co-operation and relationship between the World Council of Churches and churches in Zimbabwe, which dates back to the country's struggle for independence. The ecumenical body and its partners supported the liberation movement through the widely acclaimed Programme to Combat Racism (PCR). The Central and Executive Committees have issued several statements; also pastoral visits have been undertaken at different times. The WCC has also supported and co-ordinated election monitoring.

2. Since independence, the unequal distribution of land remained unresolved. While almost all Zimbabweans agree that a fair redistribution of land is critical, the process has been a matter of deep division. There is also general agreement among the churches in Zimbabwe on the rationale for land distribution. The disagreement, however, continues to be on how the plan has to be executed. The adoption by the government of the fast track procedure on the land question has polarised and divided the country.

3. Following the loss of the constitutional referendum in February 2000, parliamentary elections were held in 2001. ZANU PF won by a narrow majority over the newly formed Movement for Democratic Change (MDC). The elections were widely criticised by international observers as not being free and fair. In 2002, presidential elections were held and Mugabe sought a sixth term. Morgan Tsvangirai, the leader of MDC, challenged him, in particular. The elections were marred by violence and vote rigging widely condemned as unfair and not free by international observers, including a team of church observers co-ordinated by the ZCC, the AACC and the WCC. Mugabe won the election but his victory was not accepted by MDC and the political stalemate has been punctuated by growing instability, chaos and violence. Parliamentary elections are scheduled for 2005 and presidential elections for 2006.

4. The country has witnessed a collapse of its economy with massive shortages of all basic foodstuffs, including maize, the staple food for most people and other essential items such as electricity and petrol. The collapse of the currency and outright shortages of money have left the few who are employed with cash that is hardly of any value. Zimbabwe's once strong health sector, too, has collapsed and the country ranks as one of the highest in the world for HIV/AIDS with some 34 per cent of the population positive and an average of 2,800 deaths-a-week from AIDS-related illness. There has been a massive out-migration of Zimbabweans both to Southern Africa and overseas.

5. Human rights abuses are widespread and corruption has become rampant at all levels of society. There is a breakdown of law and order, and the role of law enforcement agencies is selective. Furthermore, attacks on civilians by extra-judicial squads of politicised youth and so-called war veterans are a daily occurrence. One of the most difficult problems facing the country as it approaches elections – 2005 and 2006 - are draconian laws against freedom of expression. There is no independent media and people therefore have to rely on information provided by state-owned newspapers, radio and television.

6. As the Executive Committee meets in Seoul, the Zimbabwe Council of Churches is organising a retreat with the Heads of Member Denominations on

the theme "COMMON VISION TOWARDS A ZIMBABWE WE WANT" from 23-26 August, in Carribea Bay, Kariba. The church leaders are expected to discuss the current national crisis and come out with a message and an ecumenical plan of action.

The Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches meeting in Seoul from August 24-27 2004, aware of the national crisis of Zimbabwe:

calls on the ecumenical fellowship to pray for peace and reconciliation in Zimbabwe;

encourages the WCC through the CCIA to support the initiatives of the churches in addressing the national crisis, including the urgent humanitarian needs;

requests the General Secretary of the WCC to send an ecumenical team to the churches in Zimbabwe as a sign of encouragement and solidarity;

supports the initiative of the church leaders in Zimbabwe to convene a retreat on the theme "A Common Vision Towards a Zimbabwe We Want";

calls on the WCC through the CCIA to support the churches' mediation role between ZANU PF and MDC;

urges the Zimbabwean churches to work towards constitutional reforms that reflect the aspirations of the people on the principles of good governance, rule of law and democratic norms;

reiterates its support for the initiative of the churches to address issues of land distribution, economic, social and political reforms;

acknowledges the need for the international ecumenical family to assist the Zimbabwean churches in their pastoral efforts for reconciliation and trauma healing in Zimbabwe;

calls on the WCC to urge the Zimbabwean Government to end the political violence and intimidation of civilians and repeal all repressive legislation and unjust laws, such as the Public Order Security Act (POSA), the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (AIPPA), and the Broadcast Service Act and also to request the government to provide a free political space, including the complete overhaul of electoral laws and institutions, to enable all elections to be held under free and fair conditions.

The Executive Committee **adopted** the above Statements and Minutes.

14 REPORT OF THE STAFFING AND NOMINATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE

Revd Dr Clifton Kirkpatrick presented the report of the Staffing and Nominations Sub-Committee.

14.1 Advisors to Delegations at the Ninth Assembly

The sub-committee had discussed the proposal to create a new category of participants to the assembly as "Advisors to Delegations". Members of the sub-committee had agreed that Ecumenical Officers and persons responsible for ecumenical relations in the member churches could play a very important role in the preparations of the Ninth Assembly, at the assembly itself and in the period following the assembly. Considering that many member churches would have a much smaller delegation to the Ninth Assembly than at previous assemblies, the sub-committee

recommended that the Executive Committee create a new category called "Advisors to Delegations" for the Ninth Assembly, specifically but not exclusively meant for Ecumenical Officers and persons responsible for ecumenical relations in the member churches. The committee further **recommended** that all the member churches be informed of this new category, with the understanding that the number is limited to one advisor per delegation and that all expenses have to be covered by the church.

Bishop Dr Koppe asked for, and received, assurance that such advisors would not have the right to vote.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendations.

14.2 Conduct of Meetings – Draft Rule XVI

The sub-committee **recommended** that the Executive Committee

a) authorize the inclusion in the Draft Rule XVI of the suggestions made so far by member churches and the Steering Committee of the Special Commission, in consultation with participants in the consultation that had elaborated the first draft of the new Rule XVI (Bossey, February 2004);

b) authorize the consideration of sections I to XV of the actual Constitution and Rules in light of the changes to the Rules of Debate;

c) submit the new Rule XVI to the Central Committee in February 2005 for adoption;

d) recommend that the Central Committee and Assembly time-tables include occasions for the appropriate preparation of delegates.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendation.

[Note: this Rule XVI will become Rule XVII if the Assembly accepts the new Rule II recommended by the Central Committee.]

14.3 Proposed Change in the Rules in the Area of Ecumenical Partnership

The sub-committee had considered three options. Considering that the so-called Specialized Ministries constitute an existing and recognised group of partners of the WCC, the sub-committee

recommended to the Executive Committee that an appropriate category in the Rules be created that would express the relationship and cooperation between the WCC and the Specialised Ministries, and reflect the relationships of these bodies with the member churches, and

requested the General Secretary to prepare a progress report and if possible bring a proposal to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

The Moderator enquired who would take this matter forward.

Dr Kirkpatrick stated that the staff would discuss the proposal with the Specialized Ministries and draw up a specific recommendation to amend the Rules for consideration by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.

Dean Gadegaard asked for a definition of 'Specialized Ministry'.

Dr Kirkpatrick agreed that such a definition was necessary.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendation and further **requested** the General Secretary to report progress to the next Executive Committee meeting.

14.4 Grouping of Member Churches

The sub-committee had discussed the grouping of member churches and **recommended**:

that the Executive Committee encourage the General Secretary to continue

exploring with the member churches the possibilities of implementing the proposed groupings of churches for the purposes of representation and participation, in particular in view of the nominations for the new Central Committee and the participation of the churches in the life and work of the WCC after the Ninth Assembly.

Discussion

Dr Best enquired whether in producing nominations for the new Central Committee the groupings should be required to respect the usual balances.

Mr van Beek replied that groupings should observe balances, and added that it was easier for a grouping to do this than it was for a single church. He suggested that a grouping should offer more names than it had places allocated to it.

Dr Kirkpatrick said that for the election of the WARC Executive Committee the regions had been asked to suggest twice the number of names than they had places.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendation.

14.5 Membership Applications

The sub-committee had reviewed the applications for membership and **recommended** that

a) the Protestant Evangelical Church of Guinea be received as a member church belonging to the fellowship of the World Council of Churches;
b) the Association of Evangelical Reformed Churches in Burkina Faso be received as an associate member church belonging to the fellowship of the World Council of Churches;

c) the Protestant Church in the Netherlands be accepted as a member church in the fellowship of the World Council of Churches in continuation of the

membership of the former Netherlands Reformed Church, Reformed Churches in the Netherlands and Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

HG Archbishop Mor Cyril Aphrem Karim enquired whether the suspension of the reception of new members was still in force.

Dr Kirkpatrick replied that the suspension had now been lifted.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above three membership applications.

The sub-committee had further discussed the question of receiving new member churches in the period up to the Ninth Assembly and at the assembly itself. The sub-committee **suggested** that priority be given to the applications from churches in Latin America and the Caribbean for reception into membership at the assembly. For other applications the fact that the discussion on membership is not yet completed should be taken into account.

The Executive Committee **agreed** to the above suggestion.

The sub-committee had been informed of the positive advice of the Christian Council of Nigeria regarding the application of the Eternal Sacred Order of Cherubim and Seraphim, and **proposed** that a visit to this church be organised in co-operation with the Christian Council and the member churches in Nigeria.

The Executive Committee **agreed** to the above proposal.

14.6 Withdrawal from Membership

In light of the withdrawal from membership of the Evangelical Methodist Church of Costa Rica, the sub-committee **recommended** that the General Secretary write to the Evangelical Methodist Church in Costa Rica asking that the reasons for its withdrawal be communicated to the WCC, and that in consultation with the Latin American Council of Churches a visit to the church be considered.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendation.

14.7 The Kimbanguist Church

The sub-committee had had an extensive discussion on the question of the theological deviations in the Kimbanguist Church, taking into account also the comments made in the plenary session of the Executive Committee. After careful consideration the sub-committee
recommended that the Executive Committee take the following action:

The Executive Committee welcomes the creation of the Theological Commission of the Kimbanguist Church which has the mandate to formulate the doctrine for eventual approval by the church. It offers the readiness of the WCC to accompany the Commission and to assist it in whatever appropriate ways could be agreed upon with the church. The Executive Committee is conscious of the fact that the Commission needs time to accomplish its task responsibly. However it is also aware of the seriousness of the situation, in particular as the affirmations of the Kimbanguist Church regarding the Holy Trinity affect the relationships with the churches in the Democratic Republic of Congo, in Africa and in the whole of the WCC fellowship.

While the WCC is willing to continue the dialogue in the context of the work of the Theological Commission it cannot afford to postpone indefinitely the question of the membership of the Kimbanguist Church. The Executive Committee fixes therefore its meeting in September 2005 as the final date for a decision. If the discussions do not lead to satisfactory answers the committee

may have to decide to hold the membership of the Kimbanguist Church in abeyance until the Theological Commission has finished its work and the church has approved its doctrine. The membership status of the Kimbanguist Church would then be considered in light of this doctrine. Such an action would mean the suspension of the participation of the church in all WCC programmes and activities, including representation on governing bodies, commissions and advisory groups. The church could then attend the Ninth Assembly with observer status.

The Executive Committee sincerely hopes that the Kimbanguist Church will accept the offer of the WCC to continue the dialogue and to assist the Theological Commission. The committee wishes to express its compassion and pastoral concern for the Kimbanguist Church and its millions of faithful, and prays that it will be possible to preserve the bonds created since 1969.

There was lengthy discussion.

The General Secretary stated that, if the Executive Committee accepted these recommendations, he would inform the AACC and the OAIC of its decision when he would be in Nairobi the following week.

HE Metropolitan Gennadios expressed his dissatisfaction at the constant postponement of a decision in this matter.

Mr van Beek pointed out the problems of communication in such a country and that the church had its own rhythm in making decisions. The Theological Commission had never set itself a deadline, but the best way forward was for us to set ourselves a deadline and then inform them of it.

HE Metropolitan Gennadios was still not satisfied, but accepted the explanation.

The Moderator, reminding the Committee that the Orthodox churches have particular sensitivities in this area, urged that an Orthodox be included in all delegations visiting the Kimbanguist Church.

Mr Georges Lemopoulos, questioning the original formulation concerning the Kimbanguist presence at the Assembly ('The Church would be invited to attend the Ninth Assembly with observer status.'), suggested that it be amended to 'The Church could then attend the Ninth Assembly with observer status'.

Dr Kirkpatrick, responding to Mr Lemopoulos, accepted his proposed amendment, and, responding to the Moderator, stressed that it was not only the Orthodox who had sensitivities in this regard, but also other churches.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendation **as amended,** and further **agreed** that an Orthodox member be included in all delegations visiting the Kimbanguist Church.

14.8 Central Committee Agenda

The sub-committee had reviewed the proposed agenda of the next Central Committee meeting. Taking into account the comments made by the Executive Committee the sub-committee **recommended** that

a) sufficient time be made available the first day of the meeting for the introduction to the consensus procedures (at least one full hour), by shifting some of the items presently scheduled for the second afternoon session to other sessions that day;

b) the Moderator and the General Secretary be asked to limit the presentation of their reports to 30 minutes, so that more time would be available for discussion;

c) all afternoon sessions start at 14.00 and finish at 18.45;

d) the Executive Committee meet on Monday 14 February all day (i.e. no meeting on the Sunday afternoon);

e) for future meetings of the Central Committee the possibility of starting the meeting on a Wednesday be considered, in order to avoid that members of the Executive Committee have to be absent two successive Sundays from their communities.

Ms Idah Njobvu enquired if there was a place in the timetable for a women's meeting.

Dr Kirkpatrick responded that there was ample possibility for additional meetings in the evenings.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendations.

14.9 Nominations

The sub-committee had reviewed the following proposed nominations for replacements on the Central Committee and **recommended** that the Executive Committee approve them.

Revd Lydia Veliko, Ecumenical Officer of the United Church of Christ to replace Dr Bernice Powell Jackson, who was now WCC President for the North America Region.

Revd Oscar Bolioli, President of the Evangelical Methodist Church in Uruguay, on the proposal of that church, to replace Ms Laura Saavedra.

Dr Anna May Say Pa, Principal of the Myanmar Institute of Theology, on the proposal of the Myanmar Baptist Convention, to replace Ms Rosebelle Thu Lay Paw, who had died in March 2004.

The sub-committee had also noted that no proposal had been received from the Kalimantan Evangelical Church, the Protestant Evangelical Church in Timor and the Christian Church of Sumba for a replacement for Mr Leonardo Ratuwalangon.

The General Secretary commented on the proposal from the Evangelical Methodist Church in Uruguay to replace a woman by a man. The usual request had been made to that church to propose a replacement in the same category as the person being replaced. The correct procedures had been followed. However, in view of the fact that there was only one meeting left for the present Central Committee and that this place was one of the five allocated to associate member churches, he hoped that the Executive Committee would accept the proposal.

The Executive Committee **approved** the above nominations.

15 REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Dean Anders Gadegaard presented the Report of the Finance Sub-Committee.

15.1 Ratification of 2003 Financial Statements

The sub-committee had reviewed and ratified the 2003 audited financial statements which had been dealt with by the Executive Committee in the February meeting and later by the Officers. The sub-committee had noted the improved position and the clean audit report.

The sub-committee **recommended** that the Executive Committee ratify the financial statements as audited and published, for submission for approval to the Central Committee in February 2005.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendation.

15.2 KPMG Management Report

The sub-committee had reviewed the report from KPMG on observations arising from the audit in 2003. There had been no matters indicating significant control weaknesses, but rather indicators to guide management's focus on potential risks. The sub-committee considered satisfactory the management's responses to the issues and **recommended** that actions agreed be fully implemented promptly.

The sub-committee had **received** the report, with thanks to the Auditors for their analysis.

The Executive Committee then **accepted** the above recommendation.

15.3 Audit Tender Report

In accordance with the requirement of Central Committee, August 2003, the Audit Committee had conducted an audit tender process during the spring of 2004 with the objective of ensuring quality and value-for-money audit services for the Council. The sub-committee had reviewed a résumé of the work conducted and received confirmation that the Moderator of the Finance Committee of Central Committee, on behalf of the Finance Committee, had accepted the Audit Committee's recommendation that KPMG be re-appointed as auditors for a period of four years, subject to the usual conditions.

The sub-committee acknowledged with thanks the contribution of the members of the Audit Committee to the Council's financial work.

While the authority for the appointment of the auditors rested with the Central Committee, the decision concerning the appointment of the Auditors for 2004 could not reasonably be held over until the next meeting of the Central Committee in 2005.

The sub-committee, therefore, **recommended** that, as delegate for the Central

Committee in financial matters between meetings of the Central Committee, the Executive Committee **appoint** KPMG as auditors for 2004.

Discussion

The Moderator enquired as to the reputation of KPMG.

Dean Gadegaard responded that it was an international company and very reputable. It was client-friendly and the least expensive.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendation appointing KPMG as auditors for 2004.

15.4 Evaluation of the new Membership Contribution System

No significant increase in membership income had been achieved since Harare and none was budgeted for 2005, nor forecast for the framework budget in 2006.

In this context, but also given the continued will to ensure an equitable and transparent contribution system, the sub-committee had reviewed a report on experiences with the new membership contribution system, following the specially calculated contribution request sent to each of 339 churches in February 2004.

The Task Force's report on the issues raised following discussions with 30 churches which had expressed difficulty in meeting the new obligations had been reviewed. The sub-committee concurred with the principles applied by the Task Force in their responses to churches, as documented in the report:

- When a church indicates its willingness to increase its contribution but not by the extent requested, the Council accepts their proposed increase with appreciation, and asks them to please keep moving toward their target in subsequent years.

- When a church indicates its intention to continue at the current level of contribution, the WCC accepts that for this year but expresses the expectation that they will make an increase next year toward their target.

- If the church wishes to revise its membership figures, it is free to do so. Such a church will be sent a revised contribution calculation as well as a new Assembly seat allocation if this changes.

- If a church requests a redistribution across several countries within a region, the Council will do so, on a proportionate basis and send a revised contribution calculation.

- If there is a personal connection through, e.g. a Central Committee member, that person will be used to help generate creative alternatives to the church's perceived financial difficulty.

- In all cases the stress will be on significant increases, as, even if such increases fall short of the target, they represent a commitment.

The sub-committee had noted with disappointment that 219 churches, (65% of those contacted), had not responded by the requested payment date of June 30. Reminder letters had since been sent to the churches during July. It was expected that the majority of these churches would respond and contribute towards the year end, this being the usual time when their membership contributions were paid.

The sub-committee **recommended** that the Executive Committee:
Reaffirm the membership contribution system as already articulated and the special Task Force's contribution in its implementation.
Emphasize that member churches who respond positively and request adjustments will be dealt with on an individual basis.
Require that further reminder letters be sent to churches in September, including churches which have contributed an amount less than requested without discussion of the reasons.

Staff are encouraged to work closely with Central Committee members, Commission and Advisory Group members as appropriate as they approach churches in their regions or countries.

There was considerable discussion. Salient points made were as follows.

- The Central Committee had approved the new Basis for Calculation of Membership Contributions almost unanimously at its meeting in 2003.
- That Basis was an attempt to work towards what was requested by the Eighth Assembly.
- It would create uncertainty and confusion if we now attempted to revise the targets. The system should be maintained but with sympathy and understanding of the situation of the churches.
- Increases to date had been small, but many churches pay their contribution towards the end of the year.
- Where churches indicate that they have difficulty in paying the target amount, discussion takes place, and the WCC gratefully accepts the increase they can pay, even if it is a small increase.
- Flexibility is possible and the small task force (Eden Grace, Rt Revd Tom Butler and Revd Dr David Thompson) is authorized to discuss and agree with churches the level of their contribution.
- If a church pays less than its target for one year, there is no obligation carried forward to the following year.
- Very few churches have made a significant increase in their contribution to date.
- Many churches do not dispute the basis of the calculation, but do indicate their inability to pay.
- For some churches, currency fluctuations are a problem as they have an unfavourable rate of exchange from their local currency into Swiss francs.

After discussion, the Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendations.

15.5 Results to June 2004 and Forecast 2004

The sub-committee had heard a report from staff on the results for the six months to 30 June 2004 and the full year forecast. The balance sheet analysis at June 2004 had been reviewed in comparison to December 2003, and the increase of CHF 0.7 million in net assets available after deducting obligations noted as a positive development.

The progress towards the target of CHF 4.6 million (equivalent to 25% of the annual salary cost) for General Reserves had been noted, with the estimated General Reserves at June 30 having increased to CHF 3.2 million.

The sub-committee had noted a slight increase in salaries in the 2004 forecast and urged that this be kept within budget.

In conclusion, the sub-committee **recommended** that the Executive Committee endorse management's commitment to a thorough forecasting process to be conducted in September, and **required** that the targeted increase of approximately CHF 2 million to General Reserves be maintained for 2004.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendations.

15.6 Capital Expenditure Plan

In February 2004, the Executive Committee had required that action be taken with regard to two areas of capital expenditure planning.

i) Building and equipment renovation at the Ecumenical Centre

A capital expenditure plan was to be prepared to address the requirements for building and equipment renovation at the Ecumenical Centre, and the plan should be presented at this Executive Committee meeting for inclusion in Budget 2005 onwards.

An overall plan for the building and equipment maintenance and renovation had been prepared in the past, but had not been followed. An overall assessment of the current state of the building and all its equipment would require a professional building survey; this work had not yet been mandated. The sub-committee had reviewed the current documented capital expenditure plan, which focused on two priorities only, namely the options available for the renovation of the heating system and the cafeteria; preliminary costs analyses in relation to the renovation of the heating system were also reviewed.

At this stage, no approvals were requested, since the preparatory work was not yet completed on comparing estimates and cost/benefit analyses.

In conclusion, the sub-committee **recommended** that the Executive Committee require:

- that a professional building survey be conducted, with the objective of redefining maintenance plans for the building;
- that the proposals for the renovation of the heating system and cafeteria tender be brought to conclusion, with the assessment of financial impact, including any need to draw on loans, to be documented for review by the Officers of the Finance Committee before commitment is undertaken.

The sub-committee had noted the recommendation that came from the 2004 WCC Round Table requesting that the possibility of opening up the Main Hall to natural light be explored. The sub-committee **recommended** that an architect be requested within the 2004 budget to advise on the feasibility of this suggestion.

ii) Petit Bossey Renovation

First, it had been required that a detailed financial plan be prepared for the renovation of Petit Bossey, the student residence. It had been confirmed that in June 2004, further to review of that plan, the Officers had ratified the renovation project, and its financing. The renovation work was now in progress, for completion in September. A new credit line of CHF 1 million had since been extended to the Council to undertake the renovations. Bossey had shown it has the capacity to service the loans from its operations. The June results for Bossey had been above target.

Dean Gadegaard commented that, with a new heating system, running costs would be reduced by 50%, saving CHF100.000 per annum. The hope was that the company holding the catering franchise would meet the cost of the kitchen improvements, thus making them free of cost to the WCC.

Dr Temu stated that both kitchen and heating improvements were essential to meet Swiss legal criteria. He reiterated that the loan for the Petit Bossey renovation could be serviced out of the Bossey operations.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendations.

15.7 Investments

The sub-committee had reviewed the report on investments, noting with disappointment that losses of CHF 29,000 had been incurred for the seven months to July on the General Fund investment account, despite the revision of guidelines to limit investment to bond and deposit holdings only. The sub-committee concurred with the written instruction issued to the bank in early July, requiring that capital preservation be considered the primary objective during the continuing period of market volatility.

Although the Executive Committee had required that the Endowment investment management be offered for tender, staff had not been able to complete the process, given the priority on the audit tender process.

The sub-committee **recommended** that the Executive Committee accept that the Endowment investment management tender had been postponed in favour of completion of priority assignments, but required that the tender process be conducted before the year end, with the resultant recommendation to be approved by the Officers of the Finance Committee.

Dean Gadegaard further indicated that it was hoped that the capital loss would be recovered by the end of the year.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendation.

15.8 Budget 2005

The sub-committee had reviewed Budget 2005 which had previously been approved by the Officers in June 2004, following both the delegation of authority by the Executive Committee in February 2004, and actions taken further to the Executive Committee's recommendations at that date.

Staff had confirmed that current forecasts still confirmed the budgeted income of CHF 45.4 million for 2005, including CHF 3 million for the Assembly. The approved Budget 2005 anticipated an increase of CHF 1.3 million in General Reserves, to attain a total of CHF 5.2 million at the end of 2005. In addition, the Budget planned an Unrestricted Fund of CHF 0.5 million for renovation of equipment in the building.

The sub-committee had noted that the budget did not include interest or depreciation expenses for capital expenditure for renovation which might be incurred during 2005.

In conclusion, the sub-committee **recommended** that the Executive Committee:
- receive Budget 2005 as approved by the Officers in June 2004; and
- endorse the approved increase in the General Reserves to CHF 5.2 million, this being
CHF 0.6 million above the balance required by Central Committee policy.

The Executive Committee **received** the 2005 Budget and **endorsed** the approved increase in the General Reserves to CHF 5.2 million.

15.9 Framework 2006

The sub-committee had reviewed the draft Framework 2006, and received explanation of the underlying assumptions under which the Framework was prepared. The Framework had yet to be developed as a Budget. Its main purpose was to set parameters for the development of Budget 2006.

The sub-committee had noted that the framework budget did not show any increases to the programme and salary lines for 2006, noting that the Council would at that time have very limited opening programme balances. These would need to be monitored carefully.

The sub-committee had also noted that the Framework had not included the finance costs that would result from the capital improvements to the Ecumenical Centre building.

The sub-committee **recommended** that the Executive Committee:
approve the preliminary Framework 2006 (see Appendix III);
require that the 2006 budget, to be prepared later in the year, include all expected costs. The budget must be balanced with a token surplus;
require that the Staff Leadership Group's conclusions on the distribution of cost reductions planned to direct programme costs be discussed at the February 2005 Executive Committee meeting.

The sub-committee had noted that the capital expenditures expected to be incurred at the Ecumenical Centre were geared towards improving the overall value of the building, and thus **recommended** that permission be granted to use the credit line on the Ecumenical Centre to be covered in the annual budgets of the council with effect from 2005.

The Moderator asked for clarification of the recommendation concerning capital expenditure on the Ecumenical Centre.

Dean Gadegaard, responding, stated that any loan taken out would be short-term, and it would be used to increase the value of the building and reduce running costs.

The General Secretary added that it was hoped that it would not prove necessary to take out the loan.

Dr Temu added that the improvement to the heating system was urgent and needed to be done before the onset of winter. He agreed that the credit line might not be used and the recommendation that permission be granted to use it was an enabling recommendation, only to be acted on if difficulties were encountered.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendations.

15.10 Assembly Forecast

The sub-committee had reviewed the revised financial forecast for the Ninth Assembly (see Appendix IV).

Total contributions had been revised downwards by 6%, since the original budget had been prepared in September 2003, and forecast expenditure had been adjusted accordingly, while increasing the contingency allowance, now at 13% of total available income and fund balances.

The sub-committee **recommended** that the Executive Committee receive the updated Assembly Forecast, and encourage the on-going work on its careful development, with continued focus on the requirement to match expenditure with the available income and fund balances.

The Executive Committee **accepted** the above recommendation.

Dean Gadegaard, in conclusion, expressed the deep gratitude of the Finance Sub-Committee to Dr Temu for his guidance.

The Moderator, on behalf of the Executive Committee, expressed their appreciation to the Finance staff.

16 REPORT OF THE PROGRAMME SUB-COMMITTEE

The Moderator, at the request of the Programme Sub-Committee, invited the Revd Dr D'Arcy Wood to moderate the session.

Revd Dr D'Arcy Wood, presiding, explained that the session would be conducted using the consensus model. It would be possible to make some decisions quickly, but if there were any difficulty the consensus model would come into operation. He announced that the present session was a decision session (proposed new Rule XVI, 2, c). He then invited Dr Marion Best to present the report of the Programme Sub-Committee.

Dr Best, before presenting the report, expressed the appreciation of the sub-committee to Dr D'Arcy Wood, who had moderated their sessions.

16.1 Programme Report

The Programme Sub-Committee **recommended** that:

16.1.1. The Executive Committee receive with appreciation the Programme Report. The Power Point presentation which highlighted the Council's programmatic work since the last meeting of the Executive Committee was appreciated. Separate documents for items needing action by the Executive Committee had been found to be helpful and staff were asked, in future

programme reports, to summarize issues needing action in their overall report.

16.1.2 With respect to the inter-religious work of the Council, participants had noted the importance of sensitivity in relating mission concerns to inter-religious dialogue, the need for a framework for incorporating inter-religious perspectives into programmatic work, and the hope that the 2005 inter-religious conference will give guidance to the churches in their relationships and work with people of other faiths.

16.1.3 The Executive Committee express concern about the fragile staffing situation with the Bossey faculty, in which there is only one permanent position (Director). Particular concern had been expressed about the situation of the chair of missiology. The Executive Committee ask the WCC General Secretary to continue exploring possibilities for an appropriate solution.

16.1.4. In view of the difficulties in presenting a list of delegates for the World Mission Conference at this meeting, the Executive Committee ask the Officers to approve the list of participants at their December 2004 meeting.

16.1.5. The Executive Committee acknowledge the positive ecumenical experience of the International Conference on the Social Witness and Service of the Orthodox Churches held in Valamo, Finland, 30 April - 3 May 2004 and note the importance of following up the recommendations of this conference.

16.1.6 Particular appreciation be expressed for the April 2004 meeting in the USA of young WCC scholarship recipients. Concern was also expressed about the need for support for scholarships for young international Christian leaders in the USA, particularly in the aftermath of 11 September 2001.

After a question for clarification of 16.1.6 and its reformulation as above, Dr Wood declared the above recommendations to be **agreed by consensus.**

16.2 Action by Churches Together (ACT) International

The Programme Sub-Committee **recommended** that:

16.2.1 The Executive Committee receive with appreciation the report on Action by Churches Together (ACT) and affirm the important work which ACT is carrying out to respond to disasters and conflicts. The Executive Committee stress that emergency response is an important component of diakonia which is central to the calling of the churches and urge ACT to work closely with churches in communities where disasters may strike.

16.2.2 While understanding the need for ACT to have greater accountability and ownership by its members, the Executive Committee be concerned with the implications of the new ACT membership policy. ACT remains the only emergency response arm of the World Council of Churches.

WCC ask that ACT maintain the principle that all WCC member churches should have access to the resources of the ACT Alliance in times of emergencies. For WCC member churches and related bodies which have not applied for ACT membership, this could include support through the Rapid Response Fund, through an ACT forum, or through another ACT member. ACT may also wish to develop criteria for working with WCC and LWF member churches and related bodies which have not applied for ACT membership during a transitional period.

16.2.2.1 In order to strengthen the relationships and to formalize the co-operation between ACT and the churches, the Executive Committee further ask ACT to find a formulation through which WCC member churches can be required to "register their

affiliation" to the ACT Alliance in order to participate in appeals and benefit from the training and capacity building services provided by the Alliance.

In turn, the WCC, particularly through its area secretaries, will undertake to encourage and accompany its member churches in the process of strengthening their ownership of and accountability to ACT.

16.2.2.2 WCC request that the ACT membership policy be reviewed after a two year period, and that the WCC participate in this review and assess the results with ACT, and that the results of the review be considered by the WCC Executive Committee.

16.2.3 WCC ask that when major changes are proposed to ACT's bylaws which affect WCC member churches' relationship to ACT, that these proposed changes be formally communicated to the WCC General Secretary so that necessary consultation with appropriate WCC governing bodies may take place. The Executive Committee also underline the importance of receiving regular reports from ACT.

There was some discussion on the review of the ACT membership policy and the point at which the WCC should become involved in the review. The final formulation, as above, provided for a joint review by WCC and ACT, the results of the review being considered by the WCC Executive Committee.

Other minor amendments to the original formulation were also made.

Dr Wood declared the above recommendations to be **agreed by consensus.**

16.3 Review of Pacific Office Location

The Programme Sub-Committee **recommended** that

16.3.1 The Executive Committee receive with appreciation the Review of the Relocated WCC Office in the Pacific. Given the need for an articulation of a WCC policy on relocation/de-centralization, the sub-committee suggests that the recommendation by Pacific church leaders -- to move the Pacific desk back to Geneva -- be referred to the WCC Central Committee after the 2006 Assembly. At that time, a decision on this recommendation should be guided by further evaluation of the relocation in consultation with Pacific church leaders.

16.3.2 The Executive Committee affirm the recommendations, below, made by the review team, which are intended to address some of the negative consequences of relocation, understanding that these recommendations are to be carried out by WCC staff within the context of available resources:

16.3.2.1 WCC should explore with PCC the possibility of establishing a PCC-WCC Liaison Committee to clarify roles, monitor relationships and ensure that the work of the two ecumenical bodies is complementary. This has been a useful mechanism in other regions and such a PCC-WCC Liaison Committee could meet in conjunction with PCC Executive Committee meetings.

16.3.2.2 WCC should recruit an intern from the Pacific to work in Geneva who will participate in staff groups, particularly related to Assembly planning, assist Pacific visitors to the Pacific, and liaise closely with the WCCOP. WCC should also explore creative ways, in consultation with Pacific churches and the Pacific Theological College, to enable students from the region to participate in Bossey programmes.

16.3.2.3 The running costs of regional desks located outside of Geneva should come from the core costs of the Council's budget. The programme costs of the office, as is the case for all WCC

programmes, should continue to be funded from programme funds.

16.3.2.4 The WCCOP should consider establishing a small advisory group to support and advise the Executive Secretary.

16.3.2.5 Pacific Islanders are encouraged to apply for staff vacancies when they occur at WCC, and WCC is asked to be conscious of the need for regional balances.

16.3.2.6 In filling upcoming staff vacancies, WCC is asked to be conscious of the need to hire qualified staff from the Pacific Islands.

16.3.2.7 WCC leadership is asked to articulate a policy on relocation/de-centralization of its programmatic work and to share this policy with churches and ecumenical organizations.

Mr John Doom expressed the Pacific churches' appreciation for the report and their thanks for all the support and help that had been given.

Dr Wood declared the above recommendations to be **agreed by consensus.**

16.4 Ecumenical News International

The Programme Sub-Committee **recommended** that:

The Executive Committee congratulate ENI on its 10th anniversary and express the WCC's continued commitment to the original purpose of the association. Taking into account the recent developments, the Executive Committee:

16.4.1 recognize the upcoming ENI Roundtable on the future of ecumenical news as an opportunity to generate new ideas for a necessary and urgent review of strategies and vision of ENI and

requests WCC staff to prepare and participate actively in this process.

16.4.2 ask ENI to take into account the communication needs of the sponsoring organizations and their constituencies.

16.4.3 note the need for ENI to review its business plan with a view to restoring a sustainable financial base for the association.

16.4.4 request that WCC staff and leadership take the initiative prior to the ENI Roundtable to dialogue with the other sponsoring partners about strengthening shared commitment and involvement in ENI.

16.4.5 recommend that the WCC's future level of involvement with ENI be assessed at the Executive Committee meeting in September 2005 in the light of ENI's mandate and the renewed strategy and revised business plan.

Revd Dr Clifton Kirkpatrick asked in connection with 16.4.2 for an assurance that the WCC would communicate its communication strategy to the ENI Roundtable.

Dean Anders Gadegaard, WCC representative on ENI Executive Committee, indicated that this was assumed, although not explicitly expressed, in 16.4.4.

Mr Alexander Belopopsky gave an assurance that the WCC was committed to developing a communication strategy.

Some minor amendments to the original formulation were made.

Dr Wood declared the above recommendations to be **agreed by consensus**.

16.5 Central Committee Meeting, 15-22 February 2005

The Programme Sub-Committee **recommended** that:

Regarding the agenda for the Central Committee meeting, the Executive Committee recommend that the issue of consensus procedures be presented in

the morning session of Central Committee on 15 February rather than in the afternoon as presently indicated. This should include a short introduction about why we would be using consensus methodology. Appreciation was expressed for the consensus methodology which was used in the Programme Sub-Committee as well as in the deliberative sessions of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee also encourage WCC to provide training sessions for the moderators in using consensus procedures.

The Moderator enquired when, in the morning session on 15 February, the short introduction on consensus methodology would be given.

Dr Best, responding, said that it would be immediately after the opening actions.

HG Archbishop Nifon of Targoviste hoped that, at that stage, it would not be followed by a long and complicated discussion.

Dr Wood, responding, said that no debate was intended at that point. The proposed Rule XVI would be considered later in the meeting after some experience of the process.

Dr Wood further declared the above recommendations to be **agreed by consensus**.
The Programme Sub-Committee further **recommended** that:

The Central Committee session on Human Sexuality be considered as an "Ecumenical Conversation on Contemporary Ethical Challenges: Human Sexuality." In reviewing the proposed programme for the session, concern was expressed about the need for balanced participation in the session by gender and confession. Staff planning this session be asked to ensure the necessary balances.

A revised programme plan, to be sent in advance to Central Committee members, could be as follows:

Ecumenical Conversation on Contemporary Ethical Challenges: Human Sexuality

The Programme Guidelines Report at the Harare Assembly called for WCC to "offer space and direction for conversation and consultation enabling member churches to discuss …difficult issues – including human sexuality – which cause division within and among its member churches. This conversation must build on the shared theological and hermeneutical reflection that has informed earlier ecumenical ethical discussions on issues such as racism."

Since the Harare Assembly, WCC has sought to provide such space and direction for conversation on issues of human sexuality through a series of 3 seminars held at Bossey (2001, 2002, and 2003) and development and circulation of an Aide-Memoire. These conversations have been informed by reflections on Christian anthropology and by theological reflection carried out by Faith and Order.

Objective of the plenary

To remain accountable to the Central Committee for its follow-up actions since Harare, this plenary will briefly outline what the WCC has done to facilitate the churches' discussion on issues of human sexuality and to focus on what the churches have done on this issue.

This plenary is intended to inform members of Central Committee about WCC's work in this area and about the present state of discussions going on in member churches. No decisions will be taken in this plenary.

Flow of the Plenary Hearing

Maake Masango will lead the Bible study in the morning, focusing on healing and reconciliation in a time of HIV/AIDS.

Consensus discussion	10 minutes
Introduction by Moderator	5 minutes
Brief introduction and report on work of Reference Group by Erlinda Senturias, RG Moderator	10 minutes
Testimonies - Review of Church statements on human sexuality – George Mathew Nalunnakkal - Methodology of the Bossey seminars as an alternative model – Heikki Huttunen - Ethical Challenges to the churches – Leonid Kishkovsky	 10 minutes 7 minutes 7 minutes
Small group discussions (with prepared questions)	20 minutes
Plenary discussion	25 minutes
Wrap up by Erlinda Senturias	5 minutes

Moderator: Bishop Eberhard Renz
Speakers: Dr Erlinda Senturias
Father Heikki Huttunen
Dr Fr George Mathew Nalunnakkal
Father Leonid Kishkovsky
Prof. Maake Masango (Bible Study)
Background documents: Aide-Memoire (revised)
8-10 page paper on church statements.

Considerable discussion ensued. The following points were made:

- The title of the session from now on would be 'Ecumenical Conversation on Contemporary Ethical Challenges: Human Sexuality' and the earlier title would be dropped.
- The Programme Plan, as above, sent in advance to Central Committee members, would be accompanied by the Aide-Memoire.
- The session would be a 'Hearing Session', and there would thus be no debate, no decision taken, and no question of the WCC adopting a particular position.
- It would, however, be the moment when an account of work done in fulfilment of the Harare mandate was given to the Central Committee.
- Some regret was expressed that such a session could not be postponed until after implementation of the Special Commission's Report by the Assembly.
- Great sensitivity would be required in moderating the session.
- There was no expected outcome and no proposed follow-up to the session.
- The session would not be an account of what the WCC's thoughts were on the matter, but an account to the Central Committee of work done.

Dr Wood, after the lengthy discussion, declared the above recommendation to be **agreed by consensus.**

17. REPORT OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ON ORTHODOX PARTICIPATION IN THE WCC

Very Revd Leonid Kishkovsky drew attention to the report of the meeting of the Steering Committee of the Special Commission on Orthodox Participation in the WCC at Minsk, Belarus, 16-19 June 2004. Although it had figured in the General Secretary's Report, there had been no discussion of it nor had it appeared on the agenda of the Programme Sub-Committee. He would welcome the opportunity to have some discussion on it, since it contained some important issues and suggestions pertinent to the ongoing work of the WCC.

The General Secretary stated that a report, probably in summary form, would be given to the Central Committee in February 2005 and the relevant aspects in it discussed.

Revd Dr Clifton Kirkpatrick observed that issues such as membership matters and consensus decision taking were already being discussed elsewhere on the agenda, but other issues, such as communication strategy and reception of the Special Commission's Report at the Ninth Assembly, were not. He hoped that there would be an opportunity to discuss them at the coming Central Committee meeting.

In light of these comments, the Executive Committee **resolved** to receive the report, with appreciation of its suggestions and proposals for the ongoing work of the WCC, and looked forward to discussion on relevant aspects of it at the February 2005 Central Committee meeting.

18. EVALUATION OF THE MEETING

Dr Marion Best, Vice-Moderator, presiding, invited comments on the meeting, particularly on those sessions conducted according to the consensus

methodology, in the Programme Sub-Committee (where indicator cards had been used) and in that sub-committee's report to the plenary.

Revd Iteffa Gobena felt that the indicator cards were an essential element in consensus procedures. Speaking out of his experience at the WARC General Council, he remarked that a screen showing running corrections to proposals was useful and helped the meeting towards consensus.

Fr Dr K M George observed that we were now doing consciously and deliberately what had often previously been done unconsciously.

Dr Best had found the running changes to proposals being shown visually on the screen helpful, but urged that in the Central Committee all present, including moderators and interpreters, should have a clear view of the screen.

HG Archbishop Nifon of Targoviste urged care in the use of the consensus method. He would prefer that moderators ask if there were any objections, without the use of indicator cards. If no objections were raised, that would indicate consensus. It was not possible to have everyone completely happy with proposals, but, if no objection were raised, that would indicate that members were going along with the proposal.

HE Metropolitan Dr Gennadios of Sassima requested that Dr D'Arcy Wood's introduction to consensus procedures be distributed to all moderators of governing bodies, committees and sub-committees, commissions and advisory groups.

Mr Georges Lemopoulos, responding, gave assurances. Mr Belopopsky was preparing a two-page brochure, in many languages, introducing the basic principles of consensus decision-making. At the Central Committee (where moderators of commissions and advisory groups would be present) there would be the same introduction and practical exercise as we had had at the present meeting with Dr Wood. Such a presentation bore the stamp of authenticity, coming as it did out of a particular ecclesial tradition, in this case the Uniting Church in Australia.

The Moderator, while welcoming the introduction of consensus procedures, observed that that was not exactly what had been desired by the Orthodox. Consensus could not be reduced to a mere reform of voting procedures or the introduction of indicator cards. The whole agenda of the WCC needed to be conceived as a consensus-building operation. It was a matter of fellowship, touching all aspects of the WCC's life and witness. He urged that we create a sense of fellowship based on a consensus at the level of minds and hearts.

Dean Anders Gadegaard felt that the meeting had been a good experience and he had been pleasantly surprised that the business had been concluded in the time available. It had been good to have contact with local churches, and he hoped that this would be an encouragement to have more Executive Committee meetings away from Geneva.

Fr Dr K M George commented on the enthusiasm of Korean Christians and hoped that it might be possible to hold a Central Committee meeting in a location such as this, where they would encounter so many keen believers.

Dr Best thanked the committee members for their comments.

19. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The General Secretary gave the dates of future meetings:

Executive Committee	14 February 2005 (now one day only, arrivals on 13 February)
Central Committee	15-22 February 2005
World Mission Conference	9-16 May 2005
Executive Committee	13-16 September 2005
Ninth Assembly	14-23 February 2006

20 EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION AND CLOSING ACTIONS

The Moderator, on behalf of the Executive Committee, expressed thanks to their Korean hosts: for their welcome, hospitality and the spirit of fellowship that had been omnipresent realities throughout their stay.
Special thanks were due to: the President of the Korean National Council of Churches, Revd Kim Soon-Kwon, and its General Secretary, Revd Paik Do-Woong; the four WCC member churches in Korea; the Senior Pastor of the Seoul Saebyuk Presbyterian Church, Revd Dr Seung Young Lee, and his staff and volunteers for their hospitality and the use of the World Peace Center; and to the members of WCC governing bodies, Dr Kang Moon Kyu, WCC Asia President, and Dr Samuel Lee (Executive Committee member) and Revd Dr Park Jong Wha (Central Committee member).

He had noted the hope, expressed on several occasions in the course of the meeting, that the Tenth Assembly could be held in Korea, and asked the General Secretary to bear it in mind.

The Revd Kim Soon-Kwon, at an earlier session, had thanked the Executive Committee for coming to Korea and wished them God's blessing on their return journeys.

Dr Samuel Lee added his thanks to the Executive Committee. Their presence had been a blessing of God to the Korean churches and had raised awareness of the ecumenical movement. He asked that members continue to remember the Korean churches in their prayers.

The Moderator, in continuation, said that particular thanks for their immense practical help were due to Mr Kim Seoung-bum and Ms Jung Hae-sin. The Moderator then presented Revd Paik Do-Woong, NCCK General Secretary, with a commemorative plaque for himself personally and a commemorative plaque for the NCCK. Revd Paik in turn presented the WCC with a decorative plate in fine china, which the Moderator accepted.

He then drew attention to the fact that this was the last meeting of the Executive Committee at which Mr Hubert van Beek would be present, as he was to retire the following week. He paid tribute to his very many years of service to the WCC and the ecumenical movement and expressed to Mr van Beek the thanks of the WCC for his distinguished and devoted service.

In conclusion, he expressed appreciation to the General Secretary for his work; to all WCC staff members present; and to the Executive Committee members for their presence and participation.

Fr Dr K M George thanked HH Aram I for his leadership as Moderator during the present meeting.

The General Secretary added his thanks to colleagues for their guidance to him and the Committee and in particular to Ms Ursula Zierl for the administrative arrangements. He reiterated the Moderator's thanks to the Seoul Saebyuk Presbyterian Church, its Senior Pastor, staff and volunteers.

The Moderator closed the meeting of the Executive Committee at 12.30pm on 27 August 2004.

APPENDICES

I List of Participants
II Membership of Sub-Committees
III Financial Summary
IV Assembly Financial Forecast

APPENDIX I

List of Participants

Officers:	H.H. Aram I, Catholicos of Cilicia (Moderator) Mrs Justice Sophia Adinyira (Vice-Moderator) Dr Marion Best (Vice-Moderator) Revd Dr Samuel Kobia (General Secretary)
Members:	Ms Donnalie E.C. Edwards-Cabey Dean Anders Gadegaard H.E. Metr. Prof. Dr Gennadios of Sassima Revd Iteffa Gobena Ms Carmencita Karagdag H.G. Archbishop Mor Cyril Aphrem Karim Revd Dr Clifton Kirkpatrick Very Revd Leonid Kishkovsky Bishop Dr Rolf Koppe Ms Jana Krajciriková Revd Septemmy E. Lakawa Prof. Dr Samuel Lee Revd Dr Maake S.J. Masango H.G. Archbishop Nifon of Targoviste Ms Idah Njobvu Rt Revd Dr Zacharias Mar Theophilus
Ex Officio:	Fr Dr K. M. George
Apologies:	Bishop Dr Hilarion Alfeyev Revd Inamar Correa de Souza Revd Dr Ilaitia Sevati Tuwere Bishop McKinley Young
Substitute:	Mr John Doom
Consultant:	Revd Dr D'Arcy Wood

Guests:	Dr Ahn Jae Woong Dr Kang Moon Kyu Revd Paik Do-Woong
Staff:	Mr Alexander Belopopsky Dr Elizabeth Ferris Dr Mathews George Mr Clement John Mr Georges Lemopoulos Dr William Temu Revd Sabine Udodesku Mr Hubert van Beek Mr Peter Weiderud
Minute-Writer:	Revd Tony Coates
Administration:	Ms Ursula Zierl

APPENDIX II

Membership of Sub-Committees

Programme

Dr Marion S. Best
Mr John Doom
Metr. Prof. Dr Gennadios of Sassima
Fr Dr K. M. George
Revd Iteffa Gobena
Archbishop Mor Cyril Aphrem Karim
Very Revd Leonid Kishkovsky
Ms Jana Krajciriková
Revd Septemmy E. Lakawa
Revd Dr Maake J. Masango
Revd Dr D'Arcy Wood (as guest)

Staffing and Nominations

Justice Sophia O.A. Adinyira
Ms Donnalie Edwards-Cabey
Revd Dr Clifton Kirkpatrick
Prof. Dr Samuel Lee
Archbishop Nifon of Targoviste
Rt Revd Dr Zacharias Mar Theophilus

Finance

His Holiness Aram I
Dean Anders Gadegaard
Bishop Dr Rolf Koppe

Revd Dr Maake J. Masango
Ms Idah Njobvu

Public Issues

Very Revd Leonid Kishkovsky
Revd Iteffa Gobena
Ms Carmencita Karagdag
Bishop Dr Rolf Koppe
Prof. Dr Samuel Lee
Revd Dr Maake J. Masango
Archbishop Nifon of Targoviste
Ms Idah Njobvu
Rt Revd Dr Zacharias Mar Theophilus

APPENDIX III

2004, 2005 & 2006

(in CHF millions)	Forecast 2004	Approved Budget 2005	Framework 2006
Funds & Reserves brought forward	**40.55**	**37.95**	**36.42**
Income			
Contributions	37.33	39.06	33.80
Other Income	6.05	6.33	7.12
Total Income	**43.38**	**45.39**	**40.92**
Expenditure			
Programme & other costs	27.54	28.58	24.76
Salaries	18.44	18.34	18.55
Total Expenditure	**45.98**	**46.92**	**43.31**
Net Income / Expenditure	**(2.60)**	**(1.53)**	**(2.39)**
Increase/(Dec) Unrestricted & Designated Funds	1.93	1.42	(0.18)
Decrease Restricted Funds	(4.53)	(2.95)	(2.21)
	(2.60)	**(1.53)**	**(2.39)**
Funds & Reserves carried forward	**37.95**	**36.42**	**34.04**

APPENDIX IV

9th ASSEMBLY IN PORTO ALEGRE 2006

Income and Expenditure for the 4 year period
1.1. 2003 to 31.12.2006

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	FORECAST
	Sep-03	Jun-04
	CHF	CHF
Opening balance 1.1.2003		
WCC Assembly reserve (designated funds)	553,000	553,000
9th Assembly (restricted funds)*	456,000	456,000
*(incl contributions from Churches prior to 1.1.2003)		
	1,009,000	**1,009,000**
INCOME		
Contributions	4,609,000	4,185,000
Delegate registration fees	217,000	217,000
Visitor registration fees	465,000	465,000
Day visitors		
Brazilian visitors		
Partnership Programme		100,000
Total income during 2003-2006	**5,291,000**	**4,967,000**
Total income 03-06 and balances brought forward	**6,300,000**	**5,976,000**
EXPENDITURE		
PLANNING PHASE		
Geneva Office	760,000	666,000
Planning Committees	175,000	130,000
Communication	360,000	340,000
	1,295,000	**1,136,000**
ASSEMBLY		
Facility costs	395,000	394,000
Delegate subsidies	1,400,000	1,200,000
Other sponsored participants	245,000	247,000
Youth training - stewards programme	465,000	464,000
Staffing costs	890,000	887,000
Communication	450,000	410,000
Programme costs	300,000	355,000
	4,145,000	**3,957,000**
POST-ASSEMBLY		
Reports	**205,000**	**100,000**
Contingency	**600,000**	**775,000**
Total Expenditure	**6,245,000**	**5,968,000**
Balance (to be used for the next Assembly)	**55,000**	**8,000**